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Granite wrestlers prepare for team sectional
Sports, Page 1B

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VOLUME 22, NUMBER 15

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1998

FIFTY CENTS

Hunt still on for truck driver

Truck may have been factor in Interstate 55/70 accident

By Scott Cousins
 Staff writer

Police are still looking for a tractor-trailer Friday that may have been involved in an accident that left one man dead and 13 people injured.

A van containing four adults and 10 children believed to be from the Chicago area — apparently en route to a Mardi Gras celebration — slammed into a guard rail and overturned on Interstate 55/70 about one mile west of the Highway 200 exit Thursday night.

One man was pronounced dead at the scene by St. Clair County Coroner Rick Stone. The other three adults and children were taken to area hospitals — one to Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, two to Bellevue Memorial, five to St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City and five to St. Mary's in East St. Louis.

According to a witness, the van was being followed "very closely" by a westbound tractor-trailer truck. The witness told police that the van swerved to the right across two lanes, struck a guard rail and then overturned. The tractor-trailer did not stop.

'I've been told they were headed for Mardi Gras, that could have been in New Orleans or St. Louis.'

Sgt. David Jung
 Illinois State Police

An investigation by an Illinois State Police crash reconstruction officer is being conducted to determine the sequence of events and possible involvement of the truck.

ISP Sgt. David Jung said the names of the victims are being withheld until formal notification of the family, which was expected sometime Friday.

The Ford van was rented from Budget near Midway Airport in Chicago and all the victims (See CRASH, Page 7A)

Seizure of machines justified, Haine says

By Nicole Vaughn
 Staff writer

The recent seizure of hundreds of video poker machines is not about charging and jailing local tavern owners or officials from fraternal groups.

Nor is it about protecting the interest of state-regulated gambling boats, says Madison County State's Attorney William Haine, something he said is not being done by the owners of two local vending businesses who own the machines.

Instead, Haine said his order to seize machines owned by Mike Clover of Troy and Richard GeBauer of Collinsville was prompted

MADISON COUNTY

by evidence that the machines are part of a gambling operation that yields hundreds of thousands — if not millions — in illegal cash each year.

"It's completely out of hand," Haine said of the two alleged operations. "This is no longer penny ante — or even nickels, dimes and quarters. There's evidence that the odds are considered. There's evidence that they're being fleeced. In fact, they may have no idea they are being fleeced."

(See HAINES, Page 7A)

Windfall crumbles

School funds to fall short of original figures

By Scott Kelly
 Staff writer

The big pot of gold promised in the state's school funding plan approved in December has turned into a cupful in Granite City.

Figures supplied by the Illinois Board of Education had estimated that in the 1998-99 school year, Granite City Com-

munity Unit School District #9 would receive an additional \$2.8 million.

However, District 9 Superintendent Steve Baen said district officials have discovered the figure will be far less. The actual figure, he said, will be about \$1.8 million.

The state package raised the student foundation level to \$4,225 from \$3,122 per student

in the 1998-99 school year. In the next two school years, the foundation level would increase each year by \$100 to \$4,425.

"With \$100 increases in each of the subsequent two years, we can anticipate only the same level of funding as was received over the previous three years," he said.

"By reporting inflated estimates," he said.

(See SCHOOLS, Page 8A)

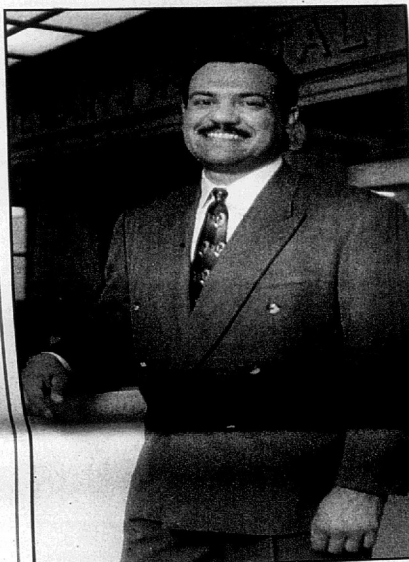
Making his 'Mark'

CEO cures ailing hospital

By Nicole Vaughn
 Staff writer

Richard Mark has been a laborer, a teacher and a principal, a high school coach and a county administrator. He never anticipated becoming the president and chief executive officer of a hospital. But in May 1990, he did.

"You might say I fell into it," Mark said of his almost eight years at the helm of St. Mary's Hospital in East St. Louis.



Richard Mark is happy at St. Mary's Hospital.

PROFILE

Mark, a Collinsville resident, worked with St. Mary's officials while he was director of St. Clair County's Intergovernmental Grants Department. At that time, he was trying to find grants and other funding sources for the financially strapped hospital.

"Finally, they came to me one day and asked if I'd ever heard of St. Mary's. I'd never heard of it, but I'd heard of the challenge it was, taking on a hospital that was losing an average of \$600,000 each month, managing a 600-member staff that includes 100 doctors, and dealing with ever-changing health-care legislation and the needs of a dwindling community.

"In an urban type of environment, there are different challenges," Mark said. (See MARK, Page 3A)

Hospital turns corner

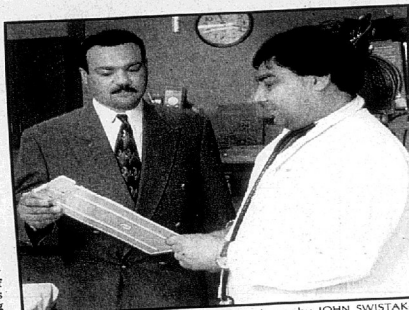
By Nicole Vaughn
 Staff writer

St. Mary's Hospital was losing \$6.5 million a year when Richard Mark took over as president and chief executive officer in May 1990.

The loss dropped to \$1.5 million his second year there and plummeted to \$100,000 by his third year. By his fourth year, the hospital was breaking even.

"We've been profitable every year since," Mark said.

But Mark doesn't claim sole credit for the turnaround. It's taken years of cooperation from employees and the development of new ways of doing things. One of the biggest changes has come from strict monitoring of supplies, from the place mats on a patient's meal



Mark talks with Dr. Sana Ullah. Staff photos by JOHN SWISTAK JR.

City approves tentative housing sites

By Scott Cousins
 Staff writer

Three possible sites for the first construction in the city of Madison's housing improvement program have been given tentative approval by city officials.

That program and a proposed subdivision ordinance were discussed Thursday by the City Council at a Committee of the Whole meeting.

Madison city officials have been considering the use of Madison County Community Development funds to build "spec" homes in the city, which would then be purchased by residents.

By encouraging new home building and ownership, officials want to improve the housing stock in the city.

Mayor John Hamm has said he hopes to build at least one new home in each of the city's four wards.

And while the city is working on construction, Hamm said applications for prospective owners are available at city hall or through MCCD.

The prospective sites are in the second 1600 block of Third Street, the northwest corner of the Dunbar School site, and a lot at the intersection of Seventh and Washington.

(See HOUSING, Page 4A)

In the Journal

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Local youth makes Eagle Scout

Boy Scout Troop 13 of St. Elizabeth Church presented Steve Geroff, son of Robert and Rosemary Geroff, with the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank in scouting.

The Feb. 1 ceremony was opened by Scoutmaster Milan Babic. Troop 13 scouts presented the colors. Andy McGlawn, Eagle Scout friend of Steve, gave the Eagle Scout charge and presented Steve with his Eagle neckerchief and Eagle Scout pin. Steve presented his mother with the Eagle mother's pin and his father with the Eagle tie tuck.

Several organizations made presentations to Steve. Bill Monical from the Optimists, Mike Graves from the Elks, Leroy Stark from the Eagles, Frank Woods of the Moose, Ron Luebben from the Sons of the American Revolution, Bill Loftus from the Knights of Columbus, Ken Wallace from the American Legion 13, and Mary Wiedemer from the St. Elizabeth Men Club presented awards, praise and sincere congratulations to Steve on this important achievement.

Steve also displayed many letters and certificates that he had received from several organizations and elected officials who were unable to attend.

Troop 13 presented Steve



From left, Robert, Steve and Rosemary Geroff. Steve joins the 2 percent of all Boy Scouts to attain the rank of Eagle Scout.

with a framed memento of his path of Scouting ranks to Eagle. Steve earned 39 merit badges, the Ad Altare Dei Religious Award, hiked 73 miles and performed 12 good turns. Steve has held the positions of patrol leader, troop

scribe, librarian, quartermaster and, presently, senior patrol leader. Steve thanked everyone in the scouting program who had helped him attain the Eagle rank, those who presented him with awards, attended the ceremony and his parents for the things they did to help him. His past and present scout

leaders, fellow scouts, relatives and friends attended the ceremony. Everyone wished Steve the best in his future during the reception that followed the ceremony.

Only 2 percent of those entering the scouting program ever attain Eagle scout.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Community

An "Easter Parade," the 13th Annual Spring Dinner Dance and Auction sponsored by the OLD SIX MILE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, will be held March 28 at St. Gregory Armenian Hall, 3501 Century Drive in Granite City. Beginning at 5:30 p.m., there will be a cash bar as well as a silent auction. Gifts for the auction have been donated by merchants, members and many friends of the Society.

At 6:15 p.m. the dinner, catered by Jerry's, will be served. Entertainment provided by the Silver Belles and a Beau, a group from Belleville. Lillian Delps will conduct the drawing to determine the winner of a full-size, hand-made quilt. Tickets on the quilt will be available before the dinner at several area locations. The winner of the drawing does not have to be present. In addition, a consolation prize of \$50 will be awarded to the second name drawn, and a prize of \$25 for the third name drawn.

From 8 to 10 p.m. the Twilights will provide music for dancing. Donation for the evening is \$12.50 per person, and tickets must be purchased in advance from members of the organization before

March 23. Call Elmer Stille, general chairman of the event, about tickets at 877-1208 or call 931-3023.

Stage plays/musicals

THE UNIVERSITY THEATER at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville is presenting on stage The Shadow Box by Michael Cristofari and directed by William J. Grivina. The Shadow Box is a tale of three families and three different looks at desperate and enlightening situations of death and dying. The play is showing at the Main Stage Theater in the Communications Building. Show times are at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and Feb. 27 and 28 and 2 p.m. March 1. Tickets are \$7 general and \$5 for students. For more information, call the university box office at 692-2774.

The 1997-98 Frank Fowle Family Theatre Series at the CENTER of CONTEMPORARY ARTS (COCA) continues a season celebrating COCA's 10th anniversary with performances of Buffalo Soldier Feb. 27 to March 1.

(See EVENTS, Page 8A)

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by Jerry Beserman & Tina Stanley, Realtors
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HINT: The new \$500,000 exclusion (for married couples) of the gain on the sale of their residences is available once every two years.



MILESTONES

Doris Downs celebrates a birthday today, Feb. 22.
Leonard Tayon celebrates a birthday today, Feb. 22.
Misty Hanson celebrates a birthday today, Feb. 22.
Jeanette Modrusic celebrates a birthday today, Feb. 22.
James Denis Sr. celebrates a birthday today, Feb. 22.
Michelle Pedigo celebrates a birthday today, Feb. 22.
Allan Nunn celebrates a birthday today, Feb. 22.
Mary Horvat celebrates a birthday today, Feb. 22.
Jeff Bridgman celebrates a birthday Feb. 23.
Beverly Lemp celebrates a birthday Feb. 23.
James and Beverly Lemp celebrate their wedding anniversary Feb. 23.
Carol Hollen celebrates a birthday Feb. 23.
Judy Hargrove celebrates a birthday Feb. 23.
Kim Pritchard celebrates a birthday Feb. 23.
Sandy Vandaveer celebrates a birthday Feb. 23.
Lorayne Mills celebrates a birthday Feb. 23.
Marcus Hendrickson cele-

brates a birthday Feb. 24.
Erica Tindall celebrates a birthday Feb. 24.
Clay Abbott celebrates a birthday Feb. 24.
Jim Burns celebrates a birthday Feb. 24.
Charles Mueller celebrates a birthday Feb. 24.
Brandon Pulley celebrates a birthday Feb. 24.
Kathanne Koliste celebrates a birthday Feb. 24.
Nikolas R. Domitrovich celebrates a birthday Feb. 25.
Carl James Hosier celebrates a birthday Feb. 25.
Barbara Green celebrates a birthday Feb. 26.
Rose Schultz celebrates a birthday Feb. 26.
Grace Reynolds Ford celebrates a birthday Feb. 26.
Megan Curtin celebrates a birthday Feb. 27.
Katie Victoria Harris celebrates a birthday Feb. 27.
Chris Kamacho celebrates a

birthday Feb. 28.
Naomi Redding celebrates a birthday Feb. 28.
Bernita L. Harris celebrates a birthday Feb. 28.
Karen Tindall celebrates a birthday Feb. 28.
Joey Robertson Karius celebrates a birthday Feb. 28.
Paul Cooper celebrates a birthday Feb. 28.
David Bailey celebrates a birthday Feb. 28.
Jessica Suzanne Schubel celebrates a birthday Feb. 28.
The following people were born on Feb. 29, and will celebrate their birthdays on different days this year, because 1998 is not a leap year.
Rosanna Gordon.
Brenda Schneidde.
Charlie Willoughby.

To submit an item to Milestones or delete an entry, send a postcard to "Milestones," Granite City Journal, 1815 Delmar Ave., Granite City, IL 62040.
Please notify the paper if a person listed in Milestones has passed away or no longer wishes to be listed.

Montessori to hold open house

The Montessori School, 4401 Highway 162, will have a public open house from 1 to 3 p.m. March 8. Montessori is a nonprofit, private school offering preschool through 6th grade. The school uses the "Montessori Method" of teaching in worldwide use that follows the philosophy that children are motivated by natural curiosity and a love of knowledge.

Mary Beth McGivern, head directress of the school, invites parents to tour the school and ask questions. Call 931-2508.

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- ✓ How to defend against the effects of inflation and taxation
- ✓ Using Asset Allocation to structure your investments
- ✓ Should you consider taking Social Security at 62 or waiting?
- ✓ Choosing the proper pension payout for your situation

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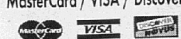
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NEWS

Hospital

(Continued from Page 1A)

tray to the combs that once came in their admittance kits.

Mark noticed the placemats the hospital had used included a "fancy logo" and the hospital's address and telephone number.

"The patient usually knows they're here and where that is," Mark said. "Who are you marketing to?"

Mark also noticed that kits being given to patients on admittance contained small plastic combs. The hospital serves a 99 percent African-American population.

"I can't get this comb through my hair, how's it going to get through theirs?" Mark said. "And yet these combs cost 5 cents each."

These are just a few of the items the hospital's value analysis team studied and included in a 250-page report. He said it may sound like nit-picking, but pennies per patient quickly add up to dollars' worth of savings.

"Looking at that fine of detail has helped the hospital save \$375,000 annually in supply costs," Mark said.

The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ, the Catholic order of nuns that owns the hospital, has played a major role in the hospital's 180-degree turn, Mark said. Part of it has been giving Mark free reign by being receptive to change and new ideas.

Mark

(Continued from Page 1A)

"We're kind of seen as one of the stable buildings in this community. You have to know, recognize and address the needs of the community. You can't run an inner city hospital without that knowledge."

So, Mark and his staff created various outreach programs. Mark went to law enforcement officials for help combating the violent crime that plagues the community. He got results.

The hospital now turns a profit. Where the emergency room treated an average of 30 gunshot victims a month in 1990, last year it averaged little more than half that, or about 16 per month.

Mark now is trying to use some of his problem-solving abilities to help East St. Louis School District 189. Since October 1994, Mark has chaired the state's financial oversight panel for the district.

His upbringing and his intended career as a teacher may explain why Mark takes the post so seriously. The importance of education was stressed to Mark and his two younger siblings by their parents, Joseph and the late Cleola.

Mark was not allowed to wear blue jeans to Webster School and never was absent until he reached Collinsville High School. He was an early graduate there in January 1973.

"Their philosophy was if you got a good education, you could do anything you wanted to do," Mark said. "I was told to work hard and be prepared, because nobody is going to give you anything for free."

Mark earned a bachelor's degree in early childhood education and a master's degree in business administration, and he was awarded two honorary doctorate degrees, from Quincy College and from Saint Louis University.

Mark's progress with the school district hasn't come as easily nor as welcomed as it was at St. Mary's, but it finally is starting to happen. A new administration is largely to thank for that, he said.

"For the first three years, the former board and administration weren't interested in changing anything," Mark said. "Unfortunately, during that time, a lot of kids got fed up and left school. That is what is regrettable about the whole situation."

Mark said some of the previous conditions in the district — outdated textbooks, unheated classrooms and a lack of teachers — drove away many students. Most of them won't return, creating statistics that haunt Mark.

"How many kids have lost opportunities to a few adults who are worried more about their own egos than about the kids' education?" Mark asked. "We'll never know those kids. They're just nameless statistics."

"Decreased enrollment is the only place they ever show up."

Mark is proof that hard work can pay off. Despite its demands, he said he wouldn't have it any other way. A youthful work experience where he was less than satisfied with an employer he declined to name — resulted in a lifetime promise to himself.

"I hated every day I went there," Mark said. "I promised myself at that time I would never work somewhere I hated."

Life is too short to be unhappy."

And whether it's a job or going to the movies, that is Mark's belief.

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Profile:

Richard Mark

Birthplace: St. Louis

Occupation: President/CEO of St. Mary's Hospital

Hobbies: Hunting; gardening; spending time at home

Last book read: "Undaunted Courage"

Most admired person: My mother. She was a very strong-willed and opinionated person. She could be kind and compassionate but very tough when she had to be.

Favorite quote: "If you work hard and have perseverance, you will ultimately be successful."

Favorite TV show: "New York Undercover"

On my day off, I: relax

Favorite food: Steak — medium



ends are for, he said. "I try not to take the work home. It helps keep things in perspective," Mark said. "I think otherwise you make everyone around you miserable."

Mark admitted that it helps to have an understanding wife. Mark and his wife, Melissa, will celebrate their 18th anniversary this year.

Mark enjoys spending time with his children. The oldest, Fontez, 24, is a graduate of Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo., and now works with NationsBank. Joe, 16, is a soccer player and has worked as a model. Mark is proud that Joe already is taking an interest in his personal finances.

"I don't go to depressing movies," Mark said. "Why should I pay somebody to spend two or three hours of my life and come out unhappy?"

Another of Mark's life philosophies came from his college football coach.

"I thought he was a nut because he kept saying that football is like the game of life," Mark recalled. "When you walk off, it's over."

Mark said he spends many evenings at meetings and some days out of town. Because of such work-filled weeks, he doesn't spend much time with his family Monday through Friday. That's what the week-

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OBITUARIES

Shirley Smallie

SHIRLEY F. (HEATON) SMALLIE, 95, of Granite City, died at 6:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 20, 1998, in Granite City.

Mrs. Smallie was born on Feb. 3, 1903, in Greenville, Mo. She had been a homemaker and a member of the First Assembly of God. Survivors include one son, Harvey Smallie of Granite City; eight grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, Lindon Smallie; one son, Harold Smallie; and her parents, Joseph and Josephine (Lacy) Heaton.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today, Feb. 22, at Mercer Mortuary in Granite City.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 23, at Mercer Funeral Home in Granite City, with Rev. Darrin Hughes officiating. Burial will be at Sunset Hill in Glen Carbon.

Memorials can be made to the First Assembly of God.

Floyd Waters

FLOYD "BUD" WATERS, 80, of Mitchell died at 4:15 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, 1998, at his place of residence.

Mr. Waters was born on Aug. 19, 1917, in Jefferson City, Mo. He had been a truck driver for BEMAC Transport, CB Club, Free Spirit React Club, Masonic Lodge number 877, Scottish Rite Bodies of Southern Ill., Madison County Police Assn., Eagles Lodge 1128, Tri-Club Shrine Club, and a member of the Aired Temple and Aired Rolling Nobles.

Survivors include his wife, Betty (Boyd) Waters; four daughters: Nancy, Patricia, and Peggy Mitchell both of Hollywood, Fla.; Joyce Best of Granite City; and one son, Bud Waters of Baldwin, Mo.; 15 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, Theodore and Rena (Clint) Waters; and one brother, Vernon Waters.

Services were Saturday, Feb. 21, at Thomas Mortuary in Granite City, with Ralph Baker officiating. Burial was at Sunset Hill Cemetery in Glen Carbon.

Memorials may be made to the Shriner's Children's Hospital.

Earnest Jacobs

EARNEST RALPH DENVER JACOBS, 78, of Granite City, died at 6:55 p.m. Monday, Feb. 9, 1998, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

He was born Feb. 4, 1920, in Johnson City, Ill., and was a WW II veteran in States Navy. A member of the Local 600 — Teamsters, he retired in 1984 after 30 years as a driver for Mid-America Freightways in St. Louis. Survivors include his wife, Eva I. (Drummonds) Jacobs, whom he married May 14, 1938; three daughters, Jean Hampton of Doe Run, Mo.,

and Janet Smith and Pat Patterson, both of Granite City; four sons, Bill, Charley, Larry and Michael Jacobs, all of Granite City; one sister, Aileen Wise of Granite City; 20 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Iva (Gamble) Jacobs; and his step-mother, Eva A. Jacobs.

Services were held Feb. 12, at Harvest Assembly in Granite City with the Rev. Jeff Smith officiating. Interment followed at Rose Lawn Cemetery in Bethalto.

Memorials may be made to the Disabled American Veterans. Irwin Chapel made the arrangements.

Slav Eftimoff

SLAV "TONY" EFTIMOFF, 72, of Granite City died at 10:40 a.m. Feb. 19, 1998, in Chesterfield, Mo.

Mr. Eftimoff was born on July 3, 1925, in Granite City. He had been a member of the Holy Trinity Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church in Madison.

Survivors include Damiira (Doina) Eftimoff, one son, Anthony Eftimoff of St. Louis; one daughter, Elaine Eftimoff of Granite City; two grandchildren; and one sister, Ruth Houser of Granite City.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Anton and Vangelia Eftimoff.

Visitation is from 4 to 8 p.m. today, Feb. 22, at Irwin Chapel, in Granite City.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 23, at the Holy Trinity Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church, with Rev. Kiril Antonoff officiating. Burial will be at Sunset Hill in Glen Carbon.

Ernest Goeller

ERNEST J. GOELLER, 67, of Granite City died at 11:15 a.m. Friday, Feb. 20, 1998, in Granite City.

Mr. Goeller was born Feb. 3, 1931, in Vienna, Mo. He had been a retired crane operator at Granite City Steel, and a member of the Holy Family Catholic Church.

Survivors include his wife, Burdell (Rucker) Goeller; two brothers: Clarence Stephens of Granite City; and one sister, Mary Singleton of Mitchell, Mo.; Etcheson of Greenville, Mo.; Joyce Stephens, Rita H. and Norma McKay of Granite City. He was preceded in death by his parents, Clarence and Helen (Subiet) Goeller.

Visitation will be from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 23, at Werner Chapel in Granite City.

Services will be 9 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Granite City with Rev. Wm. Fishenker officiating. Burial will be at the National Cemetery, Jefferson Barracks.

Memorials may be made to the Masses.

Jimmie Mayes

JIMMIE C. MAYES, 90, of Granite City died at 9:23 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 15, 1998, at her residence.

Mrs. Mayes was born on April 12, 1907, in Powderly, Ky. She had been a homemaker and a member of the Bethel Chapel in Granite City, and Gold Star Mothers.

Survivors include four daughters: Willowden Walker, Dornalee Peach, and Peggy Mayes all of Granite City; two sons, Winston Mayes of Granite City, and Gary Mayes of Mayes; one sister, Virginia Craft of Palm Springs, Calif.; 21 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren; and 11 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Melvin Mayes; Atlas and Nellie (Ford) Mayes; two sons, Harman and Donald Mayes; one daughter, Nellie King; one sister, Vivian Page; and four brothers, Elmer Motes, Kenneth Motes, Dennis Motes, and Lindell Motes.

Services were Feb. 18, at Thomas Chapel in Granite City with Rev. Leon Bell officiating. Burial was at Sunset Hill Cemetery in Glen Carbon.

Memorials can be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Euland Hooker

EULAND "POLLY" D. HOOKER, 69, of Florissant, Mo. died at 6:01 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, 1998, at Missouri Baptist Hospital, in St. Louis County, Mo.

Ms. Hooker was born on Feb. 14, 1929, in Antoine, Ark. She had been a member of Hadewood Church of Christ.

Survivors include two brothers: Jesse Hooker of Granite City, and Jeff Hooker of Vienna, Mo. She was preceded in death by her parents, Jesse and Valier (Womble) Hooker.

Services will be 2 p.m. today, Feb. 22, at Brazel-Cornish Funeral Home in Prescott, Ark., with Rev. Paul K. Kallal officiating. Burial was at Brown Cemetery in Bowen, Ark.

Arrangements: Davis Funeral Home handled the arrangements.

John Tarasovich

JOHN TARASOVICH, 68, of Madison died at 1:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 18, 1998, at John Cochran.

He was born in St. Louis, Mo. He was a member of the American Heart Association and the CIBA Endowment, c/o SUE Foundation.

Herbert A. Kassy Funeral Home handled the arrangements.

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Board Certified

County approves fire truck loan

By Scott Kelly
Staff writer

Madison County has come to a decision to purchase a new fire truck for the new aerial ladder.

The county council approved Wednesday the \$272,274, low-interest loan to help Granite City purchase the truck for the health and safety of the residents.

The public infrastructure loan is for seven years at 3 percent interest.

The fire department had sought to replace its aging 1967 aerial ladder unit rather than refurbish the old truck after it failed to meet certain safety requirements.

In late November, the Granite City Council approved the new purchase at a cost of

\$477,673. The new, 100-foot truck will be supplied by KME Fire Apparatus.

Fire Chief Keith Talley said he expects the department to take delivery within the year.

According to Talley, the new truck will have its own hydraulic aerial ladder, several "ground" ladders, its own fire pump, a complement of hoses and its own water booster tank.

The old truck did not have its own pump, tank and hose supply. Because it lacked its own pump and water supply, three firefighters were required to set the equipment up on the scene, and another brought a hose to the new truck, however, one firefighter could set it up, which is typical of any pump operation.

Once another vehicle has brought a hose to the new truck, however, one firefighter could set it up, which is typical of any pump operation.

Additional assistance of volunteers through the Internet and schools in the area is also being sought.

According to the county, the new truck will be a cost of

New Glik's store set for Cahokia

Glik's Stores of Granite City is planning to open the newest \$10 and Less location in Camp Jackson Center in Cahokia by the end of March.

The \$10 and Less store specializes in name brand, first quality men's and women's sportswear. The majority of merchandise is priced at \$10 with additional values over \$10.

The store's opening will raise Glik's total number of stores to 16 in Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan.

The Glik Co., founded in 1897, is one of the nation's oldest family-owned apparel store chains. In addition to Glik's and \$10 and Less, the company operates stores under the names of Glik, Ltd., Glik's for Guys and Glik Sports.

Supervise the work. The council also concurred on a new subdivision ordinance for the city.

The ordinance was spurred by potential construction in the city's new development, Financing District, and is expected to be voted on at Tuesday's Council meeting.

While some of the property is owned by the city, other parcels are in private hands. On Friday, Hamm said the next step is to see exactly who owns the property and if it is available.

Hamm said it will take approximately two months to make a final decision on the first site and the actual style of construction. The first house could be finished and ready for occupation three months after that.

Hamm said they will be seeking proposals from contractors on the homes, and that city officials would probably supervise the work.

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Senior Comput

Are you tired of putting-jargon on a bit curious about you sick of the understanding w

Well, your ch more is here an The Granite C

tion with the B Services for source, Granite forces to help understand the row.

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NEWS

Seniors get their turn

Computer classes to be offered to senior citizens

Are you tired of being left out of those computer-jargon conversations? Are you the least bit curious about what a computer does? Are you sick of hearing about the web and not understanding what it is?

Well, your chance to learn about this and more is here and now.

The Granite City School District, in cooperation with the Belleville Area College Programs and Services for Older Persons and the funding source, Granite City Township, are joining forces to help seniors — those 62 and older — understand the technology of today and tomorrow.

Bob Shipley, Granite City Township supervisor, did not hesitate to offer his support for this cooperative effort.

Beginning in mid to late February, introductory, six-hour classes will be held at various locations around Granite City to help one learn the basic language and uses of computers and the Internet today.

Additional classes will be offered with the assistance of volunteer resource-sharing assistants through BAC PSOP beginning in March and again, utilizing the computer labs at various schools in the Granite City School District.

According to Bob Bischoff, Director of Technology for Granite City School District #9, this

cooperative effort is just the beginning of a larger picture of community education process. "We have the Board of Education to thank for allowing the school district to enter into this cooperative program."

"BAC PSOP already has a very successful program in the Belleville area that operates as a membership club entitled SeniorLink are happy to assist the Granite City School District with this excellent model in Granite City. Granite City Township has made transportation available if there is a need."

For more information, call BAC Senior Programs at 937-7018.

The best time to reach Jean or Pat is 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Volunteer instructors are also encouraged to call. Introductory classes begin:

Workshop #1 — Tuesday, Feb. 24, Tuesday, March 3, and Tuesday, March 10, at Prather Elementary School, 2300 West 25th Street, 9 to 11 a.m.

Workshop #2 — Tuesday, Feb. 24, Tuesday, March 3, and Tuesday, March 10, at Coolidge Middle School, 3231 Nameeki Road, 6 to 8 p.m.

Workshop #3 — Thursday, Feb. 26, Thursday, March 5, and Thursday, March 12, at Coolidge Middle School, 3231 Nameeki Road, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Watch group to meet Monday

The West Granite Neighborhood Watch meets again at 7 p.m. Monday at West 22nd St. Baptist Church. Special speaker will be Illinois State Trooper Chris Tracy of "Cop TV." Tracy will discuss the program "Cop TV," as well as gang violence and the importance of the neighborhood watch programs and Safe House programs.

Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Ed Suydam at 452-4626.

Blood drive

Monday at Elks

The next blood drive of the Tri-City Chapter of the American Red Cross will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. Monday at the Elks Lodge, 4801 Maryville Road.

Donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh 110 pounds and feed good on the day of donation. In Illinois, 16-year-olds may donate with a signed parental permission slip. For more information, call the Tri-City Chapter at 452-7184.

Arnold woman wins Mexican cruise

Gay Amber Crossley, of Arnold, won the grand prize in the "Journals' Colonial Classified Mexican Riviera Cruise" contest. She received an Apple Vacations Mexican Riviera cruise for two, courtesy of Altair Travel and Cruises.

The first-place prize winners, who received a Pocomantas Family Four Pack, are:

Richard Breihan, St. Louis; Greg Burger, Bridgeton; Penny Carpenter, Florissant; Rosalie Cox, Florissant; Lisa Copeland, St. Louis; Walt Decker, De Soto; Michael G. DiPlacido, St. Louis; Jean Hanft, Crestwood; Harry Hayes, St. Louis; Terri Hottenrott, Smithton, Ill.; Robert Judd, Granite City; David Lawton, St. Louis; Marcia Levesque, St. Louis; Rosemary Levitt, Olivette; Susan May, or Altair; Lisa Milligan, St. Louis; Dagne Ostega, Festus; E.J. Perlmutter, St. Louis; Don Philp, Perlmutter; Pauline Pierce, St. Louis; Charlene Pruett, St. Louis; Donna Sherrill, Ballwin; Laurie Werner, Oakville; Jerry D. Wooten, Berkeley; and Gladys Wyas.

The second-prize winners, who received a \$2500 Station gift certificate, are: Dave Cook, Granite City; Susan Degnan, St. Louis; Beck Fitzgerald, St. Charles; Pam Asherat, Des Peres; Thomas Hayes, St. Louis; Patti Johns, Maplewood; Everett Klocke, Hazelwood; Ellen Lammer, St. Louis; Barbara Mikesch, St. Louis; Rebecca Orzel, St. Peters; Nona Pelch, St. Louis; Courtney or LaTanya Poland, University City; Helen M. Raffel, St. Peters; Kelly M. Roach, Fenton; Teresa Rob- erts, Festus; Marilyn Seltzmann, St. Charles; Eileen Sawtelle, Manchester; Robert Scherz, St. Louis; Philomena Stroh, St. Louis; Mary Beth Steinbrugg, Florissant; Lorraine Sullivan, St. Louis; Sandra Swafford, O'Fallon, Mo.; Linda Travers, St. Louis; James Wray, St. Charles; and Roy Yeager, St. Charles.

Third-prize winners of a Chevy's gift certificate are: Tammy Davis, St. Louis; Lisa Felt, Valley Park; Gregory Frederick, St. Charles; Richard Lentz, St. Louis; Gale Loeach, Ken Shields, St. Peters; Alice Wells, Pevely; Debbie Wichard, Granite City; and Sandy Youtzy, St. Louis.

Fourth-prize winners are: Rand Aldrich, Ballwin; Alice J. Anderson, St. Louis; Charles Allen, St. Louis; Joan Baragan, Ferguson; Sue Blumberg, Collinsville; Jacqueline Brandt, O'Fallon, Mo.; Janet Buehler, St. Louis; Denise Brown, Glenview; Kathleen L. Brown, Kirkwood; Florence Brown, Lake St. Louis; and Patricia J. Walker, Granite City.

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triglyceride is the chemical form in which most fats exists?
many studies have found that heart disease is almost twice as likely to develop in inactive people than in those who are more active?

Now that you know, would you like to know more?

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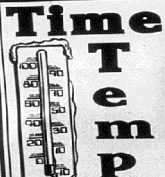
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BUSINESS

Ignore fluctuations — focus on long-term goals

Have you ever ridden a car that encountered a sudden dip in the road? The quick drop probably left you with "butterflies" in your stomach.

Dramatic swings in the U.S. stock market often leave investors with the same feeling.

Yet it's a fact: The stock market will fluctuate. If you want to enjoy the benefits of stock investing, you've got to be able to stomach those butterflies.

To help you do just that, here are a few tips from the chief investment officer at one of the nation's largest mutual fund companies:

- **Shun emotional knee-jerk reactions to big market moves.** Chasing high flyers exposes you to equally rapid declines. Avoid following the herd, especially when movement is based more on sentiment than on substantive news for analysts.
- **Take the long view.** Even the experts have difficulty timing the market. Ibbotson



Jeff Prosser

Research shows that over the past 70 years the average annual total return on the Standard and Poor's 500 is 10.7 percent. While that rate may sound low by today's standards, it's enough to double your portfolio in seven years.

- **Understand what you own.** Remember, it's a market of stocks, not a stock market. The index is a general indicator. The S&P 500 may have a price-to-earnings ratio of 21, but individual companies within the S&P may sell anywhere from 10 times to 50 times earnings. In short, the market as a whole does not necessarily

reflect every individual stock within the market. What's in the headlines may not apply to what you own, and it may not even reflect stocks you should own.

- **Keep your asset allocation in sight.** Wise investors allocate their assets among stocks, bonds and cash according to their own particular profiles. Whatever your mix, be sure to review it at regular intervals and adjust as necessary.

- **Consider the tax implications of portfolio changes.** Remember, if you do make adjustments, there may be tax consequences. Don't let the tax "tail" wag the dog, but do weigh tax implications as part of your overall decision. If you do decide to sell, try to match gains with corresponding losses to keep your tax liability to a minimum.

- **Consult a financial professional.** Seek the advice of a qualified professional when financial matters concern you. Ask a respected friend or col-

league for a recommendation. And remember, not all financial professionals are created equal.

Undoubtedly, you've heard this advice before. Yet market volatility makes it tempting to forget these tenets and instead respond hastily. A bailout strategy, either on a dip or goal is long-term results.

Over time, the market as a whole has tended to move upward, even from the sharp corrections. During the 60 rolling 10-year periods since 1928, the S&P has positive returns an average of seven out of the 10 years in each period. When you look at total returns for each 10-year period, 59 of the 60 periods had positive returns — that's 98 percent of the time.

Many investors have made a lot of money by following the above advice. That sounds like the right kind of advice to follow.

Guide could help small-business owners

The home-based business revolution has created a new market for crooked promoters. Most small-office and home-based business start-ups are doomed to fail before they even get started.

The single biggest reason for this high failure rate is caused by investing in a slick promoter's money-losing opportunity. The typical home-based start-up spends hundreds, even thousands of dollars purchasing the so-called hot opportunity.

He/she then spends hundreds more promoting the opportunity but soon discovers that no one wants to buy the product or service that they were conned into investing in.

The only one making money is the promoter selling the useless opportunity to wannabe business people.

This is one of the reasons the author, Richard Payne, a self-employed small business consultant for the past 14 years, decided to write his book called "The Small Business Guide To Insider Sources, Techniques and Opportunities."

Before purchasing the opportunity, wannabe small business

owners should first target 25 to 50 potential customers that should have an interest in purchasing the product they are considering investing in.

And then ask these potential customers if they would consider purchasing the product/service for the price offered, etc. They will discover very quickly if they have a winner or a dud. The guide explains a simple, free method to locate a list of the correct potential customers for any of the opportunities currently being promoted.

The guide also contains a nationwide list of 1997 lenders that are funding small- and home-based businesses, even when the owners have poor credit and no collateral, from \$500 to \$500,000.

The guide details dozens of free/low-cost advertising sources, marketing techniques, six of the best, low start-up cost, proven business opportunities in a variety of fields and tells where to get free, helpful software.

To receive additional free information about the guide write: Info Plus, Box 2242, Corona, CA 91718.

Extension course assists consumers with finances

Consumers are facing challenges in managing their finances. The personal-savings rate has fallen to around 5 percent, more than one million nonbusiness bankruptcies were filed in 1996, and the typical American has nine credit cards with average balances totaling nearly \$4,000.

The University of Illinois Cooperative Extension service is introducing Money 2000, an exciting new educational program to assist individuals and families in Illinois improve their financial fitness.

People who subscribe to the program will be encouraged to increase their savings and reduce their consumer debt. The program could have a dramatic impact in Illinois. If 100,000 Illinois households reduce personal debt or save \$2,000 by the end of the year 2000, the overall net worth of those households would

increase by \$200 million. The program begins this January and continues until the end of the year 2000. Those who enroll early will have more time to achieve their financial goals.

The program will focus on the primary building blocks of successful financial management. The first step is identifying individual Money 2000 financial goals. These goals can be saving more money, reducing debt, or both.

In addition to the newsletters and seminar opportunities, subscribers receive fact sheets and worksheets to assist them in evaluating their financial situations.

Summaries of subscribers' progress will measure the impact of the program. For further information or a Money 2000 subscription packet, call the Madison-St. Clair Extension Unit, 692-7700.

Canola struggles in winter

Southern Illinois farmers hoping to add another crop to their rotations better not count on canola just yet.

"Under reasonable circumstances and with the right variety, you can capture a profitable yield, but in my thinking, the profit margin is probably not there to support the crop-failure risk," said Michael E. Schmidt, a plant breeder who works out of Southern Illinois University's Carbondale campus.

Schmidt has spent the last four growing seasons testing canola varieties for winter hardiness at research plots in both Carbondale and Belleville. "We have identified a couple of varieties which are superior to the rest, and where we had sufficient winter survival, we saw yields upwards of 50 bushels an acre," he said. "But most of the varieties we tested lacked sufficient winter hardiness."

Last year, 87 percent of Schmidt's carbondale crop survived; average yield came in

at 24 bushels per acre. At Belleville, only six of the 24 varieties plant survived; their average yield was 21 bushels per acre.

"Neither of those yield figures would have supported a profit," Schmidt says. "They're not competitive with harvest."

Even the top performers have trouble with consistency. Jetton and Falcon were the cream of the crop in the 1994-95 season; the next year, neither one produced enough to harvest.

"If I was going to grow a variety myself, I would go with Jetton, though I know I'd still have a risk," Schmidt says.

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Gateway Realtors choose first president

Cindy Westfall, sales manager of Coldwell Banker Brown Realtors in Troy, was installed as the first president of the newly merged Greater Gateway Association of Realtors, Inc.

The Installation and Brunch was held Dec. 9 at Sunset Hills Country Club in Edwardsville. The Alton-Wood River Board of Realtors, Inc. merged with the Greater Gateway Association of Realtors, Inc. Jan. 1. The merger will create a stronger association of 650

Realtor members and its 200 affiliate members.

Other officers installed were Norma Kasten, CRJ, ABR, of RE/MAX River Bend in Alton, president elect; Bev George, GRI, CRB, CRS, broker/owner of Bev George & Associates, Edwardsville, secretary; Kurt Ackerman, Prudential One Realty Centre, Edwardsville, co-treasurer; Paul Lauschke Jr., broker/owner, Paul Lauschke & Associates, Alton, co-treasurer.

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Lynn A. Cunningham, M.D.
Director of Clinical Research

Memorial Hospital Auxiliary

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Haine

(Continued from Page 1A)

That's why Haine said he will take his case to the grand jury this week, seeking indictments against both men on charges that include gambling and obstruction of justice. While he has been in contact with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Haine would not discuss the likelihood of federal charges.

A traffic stop started the investigation into Clover's business, Mike's Vending of Collinsville. Police confiscated 25 of his machines from five Collinsville businesses earlier this month.

GeBauer became a target after an anonymous tip led police to evidence they say shows his business splitting profits with several local establishments.

Collinsville police seized 24 machines Wednesday from four city locations. On Thursday, Assistant Police Chief Ed Delmore said Collinsville officers were assisted by Illinois State Police and local police at five other locations throughout Madison County in removing 38 more of GeBauer's machines. The machines came from:

• Flo's, Chain of Rocks Road in Mitchell
• Scotty Joe's, 520 Madison Ave., Madison; five machines
• Knights of Columbus 4888 hall, 400 Rue Des Chateaux, Bethalto; 12 machines
• Bobby G's, 104 S. Donk, Maryville; seven machines
• Knights of Columbus, Buffalo Park; Maryville, seven machines.

Just about everyone is cooperating at this point and in each case admits there is indeed illegal gambling going on," Delmore said.

Because of their cooperation, the employees and in most cases the owners of the establishments will not be charged.

"We are not targeting these individuals, but the machine owners who are making big, illegal profits off of this," Delmore said.

There is no apparent link between the two alleged operations. Haine said records for one showed that as much as \$134,000 had been made in one month.

Haine said he sympathized with the bar owners and fraternal organization members because of the loss of business.

Crash

(Continued from Page 1A)

are believed to be from the Chicago area.

"We been told they were headed for Mardi Gras, that could have been in New Orleans or St. Louis," Jung said.

He said the investigation is continuing.

"The guys are still examining the van," Jung said. "We're still looking for a semi that may or may not be involved, other than we know it was following the van. We don't have any evidence that it really made contact."

"Our investigators would really like to talk to the guy in this truck," he said.

The trailer was described as white or light blue and the truck as silver.

Jung said the "possible" license plate of the truck was 37508, with the state unknown.

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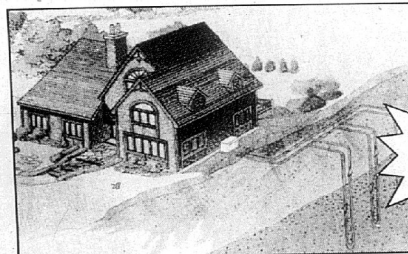
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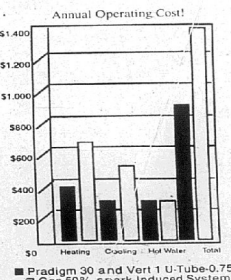
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Events

(Continued from Page 2A)
The **Buffalo Soldiers** musical pays tribute to the African-American soldiers in the U.S. Army who were segregated in their own units from the post-Civil War through the Spanish-American War.
Showtimes are 7 p.m. Feb. 27, 1:30 p.m. Fe. 28 and 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. March 1. All performances are at the Founders Theatre at COCA, 524 Trinity Ave. in University City. Tickets are \$10 to \$13 and may be purchased by calling (314) 725-6555. Tickets are also available at the door, subject to availability. Advanced purchase strongly recommended.

The 80th summer season of THE MUNY will include *Oklahoma!*, *Damn Yankees*, *Peter Pan*, *Bye Bye Birdie* and *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Two productions are yet to be announced. The season opens June 15 and runs through Aug. 9. Dates for individual shows have not yet been determined.

Season tickets go on sale March 21. Single tickets go on sale May 30. Call (314) 361-1990 for more information.

Tickets are now on sale for the FOX THEATRE's offering of *The Phantom of the Opera* Aug. 26 through Sept. 20. The Cameron Mackintosh/Really Useful Theatre Co. Inc. is producing the musical. Tickets will be available at the Fox Theatre box office, all Metro-Tix locations or by calling (314) 534-1111. Ticket prices range from \$17 to \$67.

Music/concerts

The GRANITE CITY HIGH SCHOOL VOCAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT presents the musical Tribute to Irving Berlin at 7 p.m. March 5 in the high school auditorium. The Swing Choir, Advanced Mixed Chorus and Contando members will perform numerous selections for the tribute.
Soloists for the concert are Nealie Ingram, Joshua Burkett, Stephen Asbeck, Sarah Kirkpatrick, Amy Newman, Kera Spreiter, James Knox, Christina Brimm, Kristen Lance, William Kee, Valerie Hanks, Casey Grieve, Amanda Boone, Jodi Boone, Janelle Hanks, James Hancock, Nel Le Beauséjour, Renee Condray, Shelly Pulaski and Ricky Woodward.

Tickets can be purchased in advance from Vocal Music students or at the door. Tickets cost \$1. Everyone is invited. Gail Mueller is the Choral Director at GCIS.

Jazz Up Sunday, sponsored by the BELLEVILLE AREA COLLEGE FOUNDATION, features the smooth sounds of Jean Kittrell and the Jazz Incredibles and will be held from 2 to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 22.

The event moves to a new location this year, to the Dooly Center at the Shrine of Our Lady of Snows in Belleville. Proceeds from the concert will benefit the foundation's Fine Arts Fund.

Concert-goers will revel in the toe-tapping music of the world-renowned group. Joining Kittrell will be the sousaphone player David "Red" Lehr of New Athens and tenor banjoist John Becker, who will captivate the audience with his mind-boggling, single-string technique.

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door, space permitting. Tables for eight may be reserved when all eight tickets are purchased at one time.

For more information or to order tickets, call the foundation office at (800) BAC-5131, ext. 215.

Exhibits

The MADISON COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM, 715 N. Main St. in Edwardsville, commemorates the Lewis and Clark Expedition with a special exhibit that runs March 1 through May 31. Retired East Alton history teacher Merrill Rosenthal of Wood River has loaned fascinating materials to the museum for the 150th anniversary of Camp Dubois near Wood River.

Included are a model of Fort Dubois and articles regarding the encampment by late area historian and educator Donald Fremont Lewis.

Museum hours are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and from 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays. Closed holidays. Call 656-7562.

The president of the Republic of Bulgaria, Peter Stoyanov, opened last week the exhibit "Ancient Gold: The Wealth of the Thracians" at the SAINT LOUIS ART MUSEUM in Forest Park.

The exhibit features more than 200 brilliant gold and silver objects excavated from royal Thracian sites in the land now predominantly Bulgaria.

Schools

(Continued from Page 1A)
mates, the State Board of Education and the state legislature misrepresented the true picture of school, finance to the general public."

The district, Balen said, never saw the new formula for calculating how much money they would receive until long after the hype of the bill's passage died down. What that

means for Granite City is district officials will now rethink their plans for the district, including reducing class sizes and making renovations to school buildings.

As part of the education package, the state set aside \$1.6 billion for capital improvements. However, it seems much of that money will go to the Chicago area.

"While being labeled as 'legislation to repair our crumbling infrastructure,' the money seems to be directed solely at districts requiring new buildings and new classrooms," Balen said.

Granite City has many older buildings that would merely need renovations. Older urban districts such as Granite City stand little chance of seeing any state

dollars for infrastructure improvement and renovation, he said, even though District 9 was one of the first to submit a grant application for the money.

"But we don't hold out much hope," he said.

The state board will determine whether a school district and its project are eligible for the School Construction pro-

gram. The Capital Development Board will determine when and how much funding districts will receive.

On a lighter note, Balen said the renovations of Granite City Senior High School are rapidly nearing completion. He expects the work to be completed in about one month — ahead of schedule and on budget.

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In officiating, 3 not always better than 2

When I bumped into retired high school basketball official Bob Freels of Centralia the other day, it could not have come at a better time.

You see, one of the topics of conversation I failed to include in a recent conversation with Illinois State University men's basketball coach Kevin Stallings was the issue of having three referees for a game. Ironically, while driving to a game one night, I heard Saint Louis University coach Charlie Spoonhour tell Jack Buck during a radio show that he — the coach — was not in favor of the three-person system.

According to Spoonhour, the three-person system was meant to "give better coverage of the court" but too often he has seen a call made in an area where there is doubt as to who is responsible for where the foul was made.

Without belaboring that thought, I asked Freels, who worked hundreds of games involving southwestern Illinois area boys teams, for his opinion.

"I'm against it," Freels said. "Having three on a game does not guarantee that they will do better than two."

"I've followed this for some time, and if someone thought having three would mean the officiating would get better, I haven't seen it."

Among Freels' other contentions was that when three referees are working a game, if time passes without one of the officials making a call, he/she feels committed to make a call.

Now 70 years old and affiliated with Johnny Mac's Sporting Goods in St. Louis, Freels was known as "The Traveling Man" for his ability to see the illegal foot movement of ball handlers.

He smiled when I reminded him of a call he made in his latter years when he was moving up and down the court as fast as he once did.

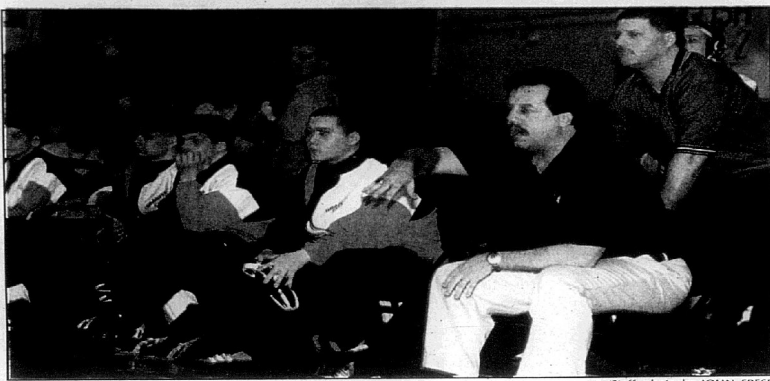
Freels explained: "It was in the Mater Dei tournament, and a woman spectator yelled from the stands, 'Freels, where did you make that call from?'"

"I just turned and said, 'Long distance,'" said Freels. According to Stallings, the three-person system which he said he never experienced until he entered the college ranks with an assistant coaching position in 1982 at Purdue (where he played) is acceptable.

"I think three is better than two regarding court coverage, but what you have to do is know the tendencies of the officials involved," said Stallings. "If an official is known for making a particular call or calling the game in a particular fashion, then you have to adjust to that."

(See VOELLINGER, Page 3B)

Warriors set for team sectional



(Staff photo by JOHN FRES)

Granite City coach Mike Garland will lead his undefeated team into Tuesday night's Class AA Dual Meet Sectional at Belleville West. The Warriors had six wrestlers in action Friday and Saturday at the IHSA state meet for individuals.

By Patrick C. Heston
Staff writer

With or without their lineup intact, the undefeated Granite City Warriors are the favorites to win the Class AA Dual Meet Sectional Tournament at Belleville West this Tuesday night.

PREP WRESTLING

A sectional championship would put Mike Garland's grapplers in the bottom bracket of the IHSA Dual Meet quarterfinals at 9 a.m. Saturday at Eastside Centre in East Peoria. The Belleville West Sectional winner meets the winner of the Oak Park-River Forest Sectional.

But first things first. Granite City must initially get past stubborn Chatham Glenwood. After that, the winner of the Edwardsville-Murphysboro tussle is on tap for the title meet.

The Warriors have faced two of the three squads challenging them for sectional supremacy.

Early in the season, in only the Warriors' fourth meet, Granite City blitzed Edwardsville 65-3 as the Tigers' Clint Freitag scored the only points for the host school, edging Ike Newman 6-4 at 152 pounds. But by that time, the Warriors were well in front, 41-0.

At Chatham Glenwood on Jan. 24, the Redskins threw a scare into the Warriors, muscling their way to a 15-0 lead before GCHS refused and went on to claim a 37-24 decision.

The only team unknown to the Warriors this

(See WRESTLING, Page 3B)

CHS grad Stirnman keeps fans tuned in

By Bill Hester
Correspondent

Jeff Stirnman has come a long way since announcing his own Whiteball game in his backyard.

"I announced while I played or I did play-by-play while watching games on television," Stirnman said. "I've always loved sports and I wanted to do something sports-related."

Stirnman was born and raised in Collinsville and graduated from Collinsville High School in 1960.

By that time, the now-25-year-old had already compiled some extensive radio experience. He was 15 when he first started at the local news and talk station in the area, WRYT in Edwardsville. He made calls to area police and fire stations and did statistics for John Berkeley, who was doing some of the local high school football and basketball games.

"The station was brand new and I was eager to learn and they were willing to teach," Stirnman said.

It turned out to be a good marriage. It didn't take long for Stirnman to make his first on-air appearance.

"I was doing the statistics for John and during one Collinsville football game in either 1967 and 1968 I noticed that he set up two mikes," Stirnman said. "He told me that I was going to do the color that night. I enjoyed it from the start. By the time I was 16, I

knew what I wanted to do with my life."

Stirnman has been talking sports ever since. He graduated from the University of Missouri in May of 1995 with degrees in both communications and history.

He came back to work at WRYT as the sports director after graduating from Missouri. He did play-by-play of Collinsville and Edwardsville High School sports as well as Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

He stayed at WRYT until it was sold last year and the station switched to Catholic programming via satellite.

Stirnman realized that there would be little room for sports in such a format and got a job at WINU (880 AM) in Highland last summer.

WINU is heavily programmed into sports with coverage of Collinsville, Edwardsville, Highland, and other local high schools along with college sports.

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(Staff photo by JOHN SWISTAK JR.)

Jeff Stirnman, a 1990 Collinsville grad, broadcasts high school basketball games for WINU (880 AM).

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He stayed at WRYT until it was sold last year and the station switched to Catholic programming via satellite.

Stirnman realized that there would be little room for sports in such a format and got a job at WINU (880 AM) in Highland last summer.

WINU is heavily programmed into sports with coverage of Collinsville, Edwardsville, Highland, and other local high schools along with college sports.

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A win but...

Warriors coach concerned with intensity

By Patrick C. Heston
Staff writer

With the postseason quarter of the Granite City Warriors' Mid-State hockey team, the defeat of the high school's Lady Warriors in the regional tournament's first round, and the Warriors basketball team in the throes of a tough losing streak, it has been a difficult week for Granite City teams.

But Thursday at the East Alton Ice Arena, the Granite City Warriors won a North-South showdown, skating past the Roxana Shells 4-3 in Mississippi Valley Club Hockey Association play.

The Warriors (11-2-3), the MVCHA South Division champions, had trouble with the pesky Shells but ultimately prevailed, thanks in large measure to a hat trick by sophomore Bobby Meszaros.

Not only did Meszaros score three goals,

but each of them were crucial, breaking up a tie game and putting Granite City in the lead.

Dustin Wesley put the Warriors on the board first, but Jordan Eades evened the score midway through the first period. But Meszaros found the net late in the period, giving Granite City a 2-1 lead after the game's first 15 minutes.

Tony England's goal pulled Roxana even at 2-2 in the second period, but Meszaros scored again to push the Warriors back in front 3-2.

Eades, who netted two goals and assisted on a third, tied the score once more, beating Robbie Slater on a breakaway at 5:52 and

giving Granite City a 3-2 lead.

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giving Granite City a 3-2 lead.

McCrary picks up 100th as East tops Collinsville

By Brian Bretsch
Staff writer

Belleville East coach Doug McCrary picked up his 100th career victory as the Lancers coach when East defeated Collinsville 56-39 on Friday night.

McCrary has now posted three consecutive 20-win seasons in a row. With the victory, the Lancers wrapped up sole possession of second place in the Southwestern Conference race.

McCrary said the milestone victory and the second-place clincher had no extra meaning because it

came over the Kahoks, who have given the Lancers fits for years dating back to McCrary's days as an East player.

"It did bother me losing, but I never did take it personally that it was against Collinsville," McCrary said. "I'm just glad we beat them. It's a vicious circle. It could be an easy turnaround in a year or two where they're after us again."

"I'm tired of seeing (Cory) Garcia and (Craig) Walters. The 100 wins, it is not an individual accomplishment at all. I give a lot

of credit to the coaching staff and the players who put for the effort."

For a while it didn't look Friday night would be a milestone evening for McCrary.

The Lancers (20-3, 7-2) led 14-7 after the opening quarter, but the Kahoks kept themselves in the game with a 5-for-9 shooting performance in the second stanza to trail 23-19. Kevin Ashbrook scored nine of the Kahoks' 19 first-half points.

Shawn Moore scored at 7:36 to cut it two (23-21) and the Kahoks were looking poised to make a move.

The 1998 Cardinals Promotions Lineup

Promotion	Time																																																																																																																									
Opening Day Busch Magnet Schedule Day (All fans 21 & over)	7:10																																																																																																																									
Monday, March 31 vs. Los Angeles Dodgers	7:10																																																																																																																									
Busch Magnet Schedule Night (All fans 21 & over)	7:10																																																																																																																									
Friday, April 3 vs. San Diego Padres	7:10																																																																																																																									
Coca-Cola / Schenck Bat Day and Kids' Opening Day (All fans 15 & under)	7:10																																																																																																																									
Saturday, April 4 vs. San Diego Padres	7:10																																																																																																																									
Shell Travel Mug Night (1st 25,000 fans 16 & over)	7:10																																																																																																																									
Friday, April 17 vs. Philadelphia Phillies	7:10																																																																																																																									
Hunter Headgear Bob Gibson Pin Day (1st 30,000 fans)	7:10																																																																																																																									
Saturday, April 18 vs. Philadelphia Phillies	7:10																																																																																																																									
Kansas City Life Insurance Card Set Day (All fans 15 & under)	7:10																																																																																																																									
Sunday, April 19 vs. Philadelphia Phillies	7:10																																																																																																																									
Bud Light Cap Night (1st 25,000 fans 21 & over)	7:10																																																																																																																									
Friday, May 15 vs. Florida Marlins	7:10																																																																																																																									
Coca-Cola/Shell Cap Day (All fans 15 & under)	7:10																																																																																																																									
Sunday, May 17 vs. Florida Marlins	Saint Louis Zoo "Sneetch" Beanie Baby Night (1st 20,000 fans 15 & under)	7:10	Friday, May 22 vs. San Francisco Giants	7:10	Coca-Cola / Dietberg T-Shirt Day (All fans 15 & under)	7:10	Sunday, May 24 vs. San Francisco Giants	7:10	Six Flags Day (All fans 10 & under)	7:10	Monday, May 25 vs. Colorado Rockies	7:10	Budweiser Freezer Mug Night (1st 25,000 fans 21 & over)	7:10	Friday, June 5 vs. San Francisco Giants	7:10	The Pasta House Company/Coca-Cola Pennant Day #1 (All fans 15 & under)	7:10	Sunday, June 7 vs. San Francisco Giants	7:10	Super Pretzel Bike Bag Day (All fans 15 & under)	7:10	Sunday, June 21 vs. Arizona Diamondbacks	7:10	AMC Theatres Keychain Night (1st 25,000 fans 16 & over)	7:10	Tuesday, July 13 vs. Detroit Tigers	7:10	Bud Light "Beer Bone" Glass Night (1st 25,000 fans 21 & over)	7:10	Friday, July 10 vs. Houston Astros	7:10	Christian Family Day (For tickets call 314-227-9788)	7:10	Saturday, July 11 vs. Houston Astros	7:10	Featuring post-game speaker Darrell Porter	7:10	Ice Mountain Teen Poster Day (All fans 15 & under)	7:10	Saturday, July 18 vs. Los Angeles Dodgers	7:10	Coca-Cola/Wal-Mart Player Cap Night (All fans 15 & under)	7:10	Sunday, July 19 vs. Los Angeles Dodgers	7:10	Six Flags Senior Citizen Night (All fans 55 & over)	7:10	Wednesday, July 29 vs. Milwaukee Brewers	7:10	Southwest Airlines Destination Day (All fans)	7:10	Saturday, August 8 vs. Chicago Cubs	7:10	BJC Health System "Smoochy the Frog" Beanie Baby Night (1st 20,000 fans 15 & under)	7:10	Friday, August 14 vs. Pittsburgh Pirates	7:10	Camera Night (All fans with a camera)	7:10	Saturday, August 15 vs. Pittsburgh Pirates	7:10	Powder/Target T-Shirt Day (All fans 15 & under)	7:10	Sunday, August 16 vs. Pittsburgh Pirates	7:10	Pasta House Company/Coca-Cola Pennant Day #2 (All fans 15 & under)	7:10	Sunday, September 6 vs. Cincinnati Reds	7:10	Fan Appreciation Day (All fans)	7:10	Sunday, September 27 vs. Montreal Expos	7:10	Ameritech Pin Series (The first 30,000 fans)	7:10	Tuesday, April 14 vs. Arizona Diamondbacks	7:10	Monday, May 11 vs. Milwaukee Brewers	7:10	Monday, June 22 vs. Detroit Tigers	7:10	Tuesday, June 30 vs. Kansas City Royals	7:10	Coca-Cola Teen Tuesdays (All fans 19 & under)	7:10	\$5.00 off an \$11.00 Terrace Reserved Seat	7:10	Tuesday, May 12 vs. Milwaukee Brewers	7:10	Tuesday, June 23 vs. Detroit Tigers	7:10	Tuesday, June 30 vs. Kansas City Royals	7:10	Tuesday, July 14 vs. Cincinnati Reds	7:10	Tuesday, July 28 vs. Milwaukee Brewers	7:10	Tuesday, August 11 vs. New York Mets	7:10	Tuesday, August 25 vs. Florida Marlins	7:10	Cardinal Cleanse Run the Bases Days (All fans 18 & under)	7:10	Sunday, June 21 vs. Arizona Diamondbacks	7:10	Saturday, Aug. 29 vs. Atlanta Braves	7:10	Sunday, Aug. 29 vs. Atlanta Braves	7:10	BJC Health System Autograph Nights (All fans 20 & under)	7:10	Tuesday, May 12 vs. Milwaukee Brewers	7:10	Tuesday, June 23 vs. Detroit Tigers	7:10	Tuesday, July 14 vs. Cincinnati Reds	7:10	Tuesday, August 11 vs. New York Mets	7:10	*With paid admission	7:10
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314-421-3060

SPORTS

STANDINGS

METRO EAST HOCKEY

Southern Division			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Granite City	8-2-2	10-2	19
Alton	7-4-0	8-4	26
Alhambra	7-4-0	8-4	26
O'Fallon	4-5-2	6-6	27
Cahokia	4-5-2	6-6	27
Belleville East	3-6-2	4-7	36
Northern Division			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Alton	11-0-0	11-0	26
Roxana	5-4-0	8-6	26
Edwardsville	5-4-0	8-6	26
Marquette	6-4-1	8-4	26
Civil Memorial	4-7-0	5-9	42
Wood River	2-8-0	2-10	19
Plaza SW	0-11-0	0-14	61

GIRLS HOOPS STANDINGS

Southwestern Conference			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Edwardsville	11-1	21-5	
Belleville East	9-3	15-9	
Alton	8-4	14-14	
Belleville West	6-6	12-11	
Granite City	5-6	11-15	
E. St. Louis	2-10	3-20	
Mississippi Valley			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Jeffersonville	8-6	25-4	
Highland	8-1	17-11	
Civil Memorial	7-3	15-10	
Mascoutah	6-5	13-13	
Triad	3-7	3-19	
Waterloo	0-8	7-16	

Cahokia			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Carlyle	6-2	18-8	
Wesclin	5-2	10-8	
Regis	4-4	10-16	
Columbia	3-5	9-13	
Lebanon	3-6	8-18	
Dupo	1-7	8-17	
New Athens	0-9	2-10	

South Seven			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
MT. Vernon	8-2	22-7	
O'Fallon	8-2	22-7	
Carbondale	6-1	17-10	
Central	5-4	16-9	
Cahokia	0-7	1-16	

South Central			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Glissille	7-1	19-4	
Roxana	4-4	12-11	
Marquette	3-3	19-7	
Wood River	2-7	16-13	

Great Overland Trails			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Lutheran S.C.	3-1	8-8	
Orchard Farm	3-3	10-10	
Metro East	3-3	10-10	
Westminster	1-1	9-9	
Silo	0-7	9-7	
Whitfield	0-1	8-10	
Valley Park	0-4	3-15	

Independents			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Lincoln	23-2	23-2	
Oakville	20-4	20-4	
Mater Dei	19-9	19-9	
Belleville West	18-5	18-5	
Alhambra	15-12	15-12	
Madison	11-17	11-17	
St. Louis Valley	10-18	10-18	

Women's College			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Pennboro	14-2	14-2	
BAC	12-5	12-5	
Illinois	10-7	10-7	
St. Louis U.	10-9	10-9	
SUE	10-16	10-16	
McKendree	15-11	15-11	

BOYS HOOPS STANDINGS

Southwestern Conference			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Edwardsville	8-0	15-1	
Belleville East	6-2	16-3	
Collinsville	5-3	14-9	
Alton	5-5	14-10	
Granite City	4-4	11-13	
Belleville West	2-7	7-16	
E. St. Louis	1-6	4-15	

Mississippi Valley			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Mascoutah	7-1	14-11	
Highland	6-2	13-12	
Civil Memorial	5-3	13-13	
Wentworth	3-5	10-17	
Triad	3-5	10-17	
Jeffersonville	2-5	5-17	

Cahokia			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Breeze C.	8-1	23-5	
Carlyle	6-2	14-12	
Rod Bud	6-3	14-9	
Dupo	6-3	13-8	
Lebanon	5-4	10-11	
Columbia	4-4	11-15	
Wesclin	2-6	8-20	
Frederick	1-7	6-19	
New Athens	0-8	5-20	
Marissa	0-8	5-20	

South Seven			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
MT. Vernon	8-0	17-1	
Central	6-2	16-9	
O'Fallon	4-5	13-12	
Cahokia	1-11	2-4	
Carbondale	2-3	8-8	

South Central			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Glissille	8-1	17-3	
Marquette	6-3	15-12	
Wood River	3-5	7-15	

Great Overland Trails			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Valley Park	3-0	13-4	
Silo	2-0	13-4	
Westminster	1-1	11-2	
Whitfield	1-1	9-8	
ME Lutheran	1-4	7-12	
Orchard Farm	1-3	5-12	
Lutheran SC	0-3	4-13	

Independents			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Nashville	25-2	25-2	
Gibault	23-5	23-5	
Mater Dei	21-6	21-6	
Lincoln	17-8	17-8	
Collinsville Christian	17-7	17-7	
Alhambra	14-11	14-11	
Scars	13-12	13-12	
Madison	12-12	12-12	
Ventnor	12-14	12-14	
Okawville	8-15	8-15	
Vannoy	6-13	6-13	

Men's College			
Team	Conf	Overall	GP
Illinois St.	25-6	25-6	
McKendree	25-6	25-6	
St. Louis U.	17-7	17-7	
Illinois	16-8	16-8	
SUE	17-7	17-7	
Pennboro	17-7	17-7	
SIUC	12-14	12-14	
BAC	9-15	9-15	

PREP BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS

Class A Girls Pairings

Wesclin Regional
Feb. 9
Wesclin 48, Sandoval 38
Mater Del 71, Lebanon 37
Feb. 11
Carlyle 72, Wesclin 49
Central 56, Mater Dei 43
Feb. 12
Carlyle 56, Central 43

Freeburg Regional	Feb. 9
Chester 43, Red Bud 42	
Gibault 57, New Athens 11	
	Feb. 11
Freeburg 59, Chester 43	
Sparta 60, Gibault 48	
	Feb. 13
Freeburg 67, Sparta 59	
West Frankfort Sectional	

Feb. 16
Okawville 40, Carlyle 37
West Frankfort 73, Freeburg 58
Feb. 19
West Frankfort 57, Okawville 54
Benton Super-Sectional
Feb. 23
Fairfield vs. West Frankfort, 7:30 p.m.
Dupo Regional

	Feb. 9
Roxana 58, Dupo 44	
	Feb. 10
Wood River 69, Madison 33	
M.E. Lutheran 65, Columbia 55	
	Feb. 11
Marquette 39, Roxana 34	
Wood River 57, M.E. Lutheran 48	
	Feb. 12

Wood River 61, Marquette 60	Litchfield Sectional
Feb. 16	
Greenville 60, Girard 34	
Feb. 17	
Carrollton 48, Wood River 46	
Feb. 19	
Carrollton 51, Greenville 33	
Carlville Super-Sectional	
Feb. 23	

Carrollton vs. Nokomis, 7:30 p.m.
State Finals
At Redbird Arena in Normal
Feb. 27
Game 1: Decatur Super-Sectional winner vs. Somonauk Super-Sectional winner, 12:15 p.m.
Game 2: Carlinville Super-Sectional winner vs. Byron Super-Sectional winner, 1:45 p.m.

Game 3: Benton Super-Sectional winner vs. Bloomington Super-Sectional winner, 6:30 p.m.	Game 4: Galesburg Super-Sectional winner vs. Herscher Super-Sectional winner, 8 p.m.
Feb. 28	Feb. 28
Game 5: Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2, 11:15 a.m.	Game 5: Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4, 12:45 p.m.

Third Place	Championship
Loser Game 5 vs. Loser Game 6, 6:30 p.m.	Winner Game 5 vs. Winner Game 6, 8:15 p.m.

Class AA Girls Pairings	Centralia Sectional
Feb. 16	Feb. 16
MT. Vernon 60, Murphyboro 27	Carbondale 48, Alhambra 35
Belleville East 57, Herrin 16	Carmel 69, Marion 29
Feb. 17	Feb. 17
Waterloo 39, East St. Louis 29	East St. Louis Lincoln 81, Waterloo 20
Belleville West 46, Mascoutah 40	O'Fallon 78, Cahokia 38
Feb. 19	Feb. 19
Centralia 62, Mt. Carmel 34	Game 10: Mount Vernon 82, Carbondale 41

Game 11: Belleville East 49, Carmel 34	Game 12: East St. Louis Lincoln 50, Belleville West 33
Feb. 23	Feb. 23
Game 13: Centralia 47, O'Fallon 39	Game 14: Mt. Vernon 82, Carbondale 41

Games at Centralia High	Feb. 26
Game 14: (1) Mount Vernon vs. (4) Belleville East, 6 p.m.	Game 15: (2) East St. Louis Lincoln vs. (5) Centralia, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 26	Feb. 26
Game 16: Winner Game 14 vs. Winner Game 15, 7:30 p.m.	

Civic Memorial Sectional

Feb. 16
Taylorville 106, Triad 30
Highland 62, Chatham Glenwood 51
Paris 70, Mattoon 58
Jerseyville 66, Alton 57
Feb. 17
Olney 75, Effingham 34
Salem 71, Charleston 41
Edwardsville 80, Granite City 25
Collinsville 42, Civic Memorial 41

Feb. 18
Game 9: Taylorville 83, Highland 35
Game 10: Paris 63, Jerseyville 51
Game 11: Olney 58, Salem 35
Game 12: Edwardsville 35, Collinsville 42

Feb. 23
(At Civic Memorial High)
Game 13: (1) Taylorville vs. (4) Paris, 6 p.m.
Game 14: (2) Olney vs. (3) Edwardsville, 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 26
Game 15: Winner Game 13 vs. Winner Game 14, 7:30 p.m.
March 2
Winner Centralia Regional-Sectional vs. Winner Civic Memorial Regional-Sectional, 7 p.m.

Game 3: Normal Community West Super-Sectional winner vs. Salem Super-Sectional winner, 6:30 p.m.

Game 4: New Lenox Super-Sectional winner vs. Elmhurst York Super-Sectional winner, 8 p.m.

March 7

Game 5: Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2, 12:15 p.m.

March 7
Game 5: Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2, 11:15 a.m.
Game 6: Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4, 12:45 p.m.
Third Place
Loser Game 5 vs. Loser Game 6, 6:30 p.m.
Championship
Winner Game 5 vs. Winner Game 6, 8:15 p.m.

Class A Boys Pairings	Metro East Regional
Feb. 23	Feb. 23
Game 1: Carlyle vs. Okawville, 7:30 p.m.	Game 1: Taylorville vs. Wood River, 6 p.m.
Feb. 24	Feb. 24
Game 2: Mater Dei vs. Odlin, 6 p.m.	Game 3: Greenville vs. Wood River, 6 p.m.

Feb. 25
Game 4: Nashville vs. Winner Game 1, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 26
Game 5: Winner Game 2 vs. Winner Game 3, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 27
Game 6: Winner Game 4 vs. Winner Game 5, 7:30 p.m.

Sparta Regional
Feb. 23
Game 1: Columbia vs. Marissa, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 24
Game 2: Red Bud vs. Valmeyer, 6 p.m.
Game 3: Sparta vs. New Athens, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 25
Game 4: Gibault vs. Winner Game 1, 6 p.m.
Game 5: Winner Game 2 vs. Winner Game 3, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 27
Game 6: Winner Game 4 vs. Winner Game 5, 7:30 p.m.

Game 4: Girard vs. Winner Game 1
p.m.
Game 5: Winner Game 2 vs. Win
Game 3, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 27
Game 6: Winner Game 4 vs. Win
Game 5, 7:30 p.m.
Dupo Regional
Feb. 23
Game 1: Venice vs. Madison, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 24

Wood River Regional

Feb. 23
Game 1: Roxana vs. Livingston, 6 p.m.
Game 2: Staunton vs. Alton-Marquette, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 24
Game 3: Greenville vs. Wood River, 6 p.m.
Game 4: Bunker Hill vs. Metro-East Lutheran, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 25
Game 5: Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2, 6:30 p.m.
Game 6: Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 27
Game 7: Winner Game 5 vs. Winner Game 6, 7:30 p.m.

Game 6: Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4, 7:30 p.m.	
Feb. 27	
Game 7: Winner Game 5 vs. Winner Game 6, 7:30 p.m.	
<hr/>	
Class AA Boys Pairings	
Collinsville Sectional	
March 2	

Preliminary round
(16) Taylorville at (17) Jerseyville, 7:30 p.m.

March 3
Game 1: Winner preliminary round at (1) Edwardsville, 7:30 p.m.
Game 2: (9) Granite City at (8) Cahokia, 7:30 p.m.

March 10
Game 3: (13) Civic Memorial at (4) Edwardsville, 7:30 p.m.

Game 4: (12) Chatham Glenwood at (5) Jacksonville, 7:30 p.m.
March 4
 Game 5: (15) East St. Louis at (2) Belleville East, 7:30 p.m.
 Game 6: (10) O'Fallon at (7) Althoff, 7:30 p.m.
 Game 7: (14) Waterloo at (3) East St. Louis Lincoln, 7:30 p.m.

SPORTS

Trojans beaten by Wooden Shoes

By Patrick C. Heston
Staff writer

Even when he's sick with the flu, Maurice Baker is the best player on a basketball court. Baker, who had been ill the last two days, scored 30 points, on 65 percent shooting from the field, grabbed 12 rebounds and dished out eight assists in a valiant effort to lead the Madison Trojans to an upset victory against visiting Teutopolis on Friday.

But the 22-3 Wooden Shoes had too much balance and

BOYS BASKETBALL TEUTOPOLIS 74, MADISON 65

depth to upend this night, pulling away midway through the fourth quarter en route to a 74-65 victory. Madison moved ahead 5-0 to start the game, and with Baker distributing five first quarter assists, the Trojans held the upper hand (18-16) after the opening eight minutes. The Trojans took a six-point lead on Baker's pair of free throws with 3:01 left in the

second quarter, but the Shoes closed with a 7-2 run to pull within 29-28 at the half.

The tempo picked up considerably in the third quarter as Teutopolis drew the Trojans into its end-to-end running game. Though normally the Trojans' style also, it was not the case this night with Baker sick and the regional tournament approaching.

"We like to play the kind of game Teutopolis plays," said Madison coach Al Collins. "But we just couldn't afford to do it tonight. I wanted to use Baker

as little as possible, and we didn't want him working any harder than he had to. That's why I took him out so much and told him not to get caught up in the game. He needs to be healthy for the regional. But, he's such a competitor. He just couldn't sit back and not give it his all. But there was no way as weak as he was and as much balance and depth that Teutopolis had — that we could win a running game with them."

In the end, Collins was right. With Baker scoring 12 third

quarter points, netting 5 of 7 field goals, the Trojans stayed with the Shoes. Stanley Jones' twisting five-footer with one second remaining pulled Madison within 52-51 at the horn.

Johnny King opened the fourth quarter with a rainbow 3-pointer that put Teutopolis ahead 55-51. The Shoes would never trail again, though five straight points by Baker late in the contest pulled Madison within 70-64.

The Trojans actually outscored the Shoes from the field 68-61. But Madison was 9 of 16

from the line, compared to 23 of 33 for Teutopolis. Two Madison players fouled out, two others had four fouls, and two others had three. The Trojans were whistled for 28 fouls to 16 for the visitors.

Brandon Hall chipped in 10 points for the Trojans, as did Gary Webster. Stanley Jones and Brandon Williams scored four each.

Madison ended the regular season with a slate of 13-13. The Trojans meet arch rival Venice 7:30 p.m. Monday in the Dupo Class A regional.

•Stirnman

(Continued from Page 1B)

with play-by-play of the Chicago professional teams and area colleges.

Stirnman is doing two or three games a week of play-by-play at the station. He was at the Edwardsville-Belleview East game on Feb. 13 and also covered the O'Fallon-Centralia game on Feb. 7. In addition, Stirnman hosts WINU Sports Spotlight, a daily magazine show, 5:30-6:00 p.m. weekdays and 12 noon-1 p.m. Saturdays. He also calls in sports reports four times each weekday morning 7 a.m.-9 a.m. on the Mark (Stevens) in the Morning Show.

In addition to the work at WINU, Stirnman works with the 50-station Illinois Radio Network, covering the St. Louis professional and college teams. He also does some local access cable shows in the St. Louis area and has done some writing for the Journal.

"I work a lot of hours," Stirnman admits. "There is little free time when you work 60 to 70 hours a week. But a lot of times if I had free time I'd be watching the same game I'm out covering. It's lots of fun."

Stirnman tries to do more than just paint a picture when he is announcing a game. "I try to bring people a flavor of what's going on besides the X's and O's of the game," Stirnman said. "I try to make it fun, that's the most important thing."

It certainly has been a fun job for Stirnman, who hopes to continue doing this for a long time. "I'd like to make a living doing play-by-play on the professional or major college level," Stirnman said. "I'm running the full media gamut now with the play-by-play, the magazine shows, the cable show, the newspaper writing and the work with the pro beat. It's a tough business but I've got a lot of avenues I can go."

Nance places fourth in national event

Cory Nance of the Granite City Wrestling Club took home fourth-place honors from the Tulsa Nationals, Jan. 16-17 in Tulsa, Okla.

The event attracted 2,252 wrestlers from 35 states. Nance, a third-grader at Maryville School, wrestled in the 8-and-under division 49-pound weight class.

Hall seeks players

The Granite City Sports Hall of Fame needs assistance. The organization plans to induct the 1959-60 Granite City High School boys basketball team into its Hall of Fame, but cannot locate two members of that team.

If anyone knows how to contact team members Jim Simpson or Larry Farnham, please contact Gus Lignoul Sr. at 452-3339.

Park District

The Granite City Park District is in need of baseball and softball umpires for youth games this summer.

Those interested in being an umpire can attend a meeting 6 p.m. March 2 at the Brown

SPORTS BRIEFS

Recreation Center.

Young adult, girls and boys — at least 15 years old this year — are needed as well as adults. Umpires will be taught rules and mechanics.

For information, call Ray Hoffman at the Wilson Park Office, 877-3059.

Metro FC soccer

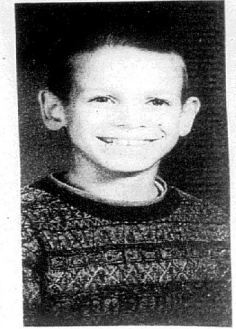
Metro FC, a select soccer program based in the Metro East, has openings for players not currently registered with a select team. Openings are for the following age groups:

• Boys U9, U10, U11, U13, U14, U15 and U16.

• Girls U9, U10, U11, U12, U13, U14, U15, U16, U17 and U18.

For more information, call the Metro FC office at 667-8333 or e-mail at metrofc@aol.com.

Granite City Wrestling Club's Cory Nance, age 8, finished fourth in the Tulsa nationals.



•Hockey

(Continued from Page 1B)

making it a 3-3 game. Less than two minutes later, Meszaros struck again, threading a backhand through a crowd in front of the Sharks net for a 4-3 Granite City lead.

Neither team scored in the third period, which was shortened to six minutes due

to the length of the first two periods.

"(Granite City) came in here very confident at the start, frustrated in the middle and worried at the end," said Roxana coach Joe Lebray. "We each had about 30 shots on goal and you can't get any closer than that. Our team is hopefully coming together for the playoffs (which begin March 1). We'd like nothing better than to see (Granite City) again sometime in the playoffs."

A frustrated Paul Solberger, the Warriors coach, was less than thrilled about his team's performance on the ice.

"Ever since we clinched (the conference title), we've lacked intensity," he said. "The kids just haven't picked up the intensity they had at the beginning of the season. I didn't think they skated well tonight, and I didn't think they worked. And that's not a good way to get a win."

•Wrestling

(Continued from Page 1B)

season is 17-1 Murphyboro, champions of the Marion Regional.

Coach Dan Baker's Red Devils have lost only to Edwards-

ville. "It was a very close meet, a meet we should have won," said Baker. "Our 152-pounder did not make weight, another wrestler was injured, and those two things were enough to cost us the meet. We're glad for the chance to meet them again in the sectional semifinals. We're confident we can beat them."

Murphyboro boasts no individual state tournament qualifiers. But don't be fooled. "We're a very balanced team," said Baker. "We don't have a standout star who blows everyone away. But,

we're so evenly balanced up and down the lineup, that we are much stronger in dual team competition than in individual competition."

The Red Devils are a team in the true sense of the word, Baker believes, a unit whose sum is greater than its individual parts.

The Red Devils finished fourth in this year's Granite City Memorial Tournament, fourth at Cape Girardeau (Mo.), and third in yet another tournament. They also won the Southern Division of the River to River Conference.

If Murphyboro does have any wrestlers who stand out from the balanced crowd, they are probably 140-pounder Jeff Raymond (30-6), 171-pounder Matt Strong (21-4) and 215-pounder Andy Wilson (22-5).

Where the Red Devils have struggled this year — even in

winning — is in the lower weight classes. Like Murphyboro, Edwardsville advanced to the Dual Team Sectional despite failing to qualify a single grappler for the individual state tournament.

Granite City qualified four wrestlers, including sectional champions Jeff Bruner (33-4) at 125 pounds, C.J. Logan (28-6) at 135 pounds, and Matt Veatch (34-1) at 145 pounds. The Redskins also qualified Tom Johnson (33-7) at 112 pounds.

Granite City qualified three sectional champions — Brooks Narvaez (40-3) at 145 pounds, George Kirgan (42-1) at 171 pounds and Kevin Venne (38-5) at 189 pounds — along with 152-pounder Tom Janek (41-3), 135-pounder Matt Werner (40-8) and 130-pounder John Kelly (33-12).

•Voellinger

(Continued from Page 1B)

Obviously, Stallings spoke from the perspective of a coach and/or player. As a spectator, I'm with Freels in that what appears to be a foul or a violation to one referee should be called the same way by another, especially if they are part of the same three-person crew.

Judge for yourself — whether on the high school, collegiate or pro level. One thing is for sure: if you will have ample opportunity to see three at work.

Extra innings

According to Syl "Tuffy" Muehl of Millstadt, the annual winter meeting of County League baseball Oldtimers has been put on hold for a year.

"My original intention was to make it an every other year thing," said Muehl, a Mon-Clair Hall of Famer who observed his 70th birthday on Feb. 12.

Overtime

The Jan. 6 death of Lawrence D. "Mickey" Thaxton, 55, of Highland should not go without noting that he was among the best football players ever at Assumption High School in East St. Louis.

According to longtime sports observer Bob Gagen of Belleville, "When Dan Devine (coach) said he was the best fullback he had ever recruited."

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Date and Time: Class begins Thursday, March 12, 1998 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Cost: \$50.00 class only \$80.00 with exercise component

The exercise program includes a TWO-MONTH MEMBERSHIP TO BELLEVILLE HEALTH AND SPORTS CENTER. An introductory class will be held.

Place: "Project Trim" is held in Memorial Hospital's auditorium.

The exercise program is held at Belleville Health and Sports Center, 1001 S. 74th Street, Belleville

Information: Class size is limited. To register, call Memorial's Community Relations Department at (618) 257-5649.

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SPORTS

Omer's Invitational His 1908 invitational set tone for state tourney

By Patrick C. Heston
Staff writer

Lewis Omer was the director of the YMCA in the Chicago suburb of Oak Park when he hit upon the idea of a postseason basketball tournament to determine the best high school team in the state of Illinois.

The year was 1908. The next season, the playoffs would be picked up by the fledgling Illinois High School Athletic Association and thrown open to every high school team in the state. But in its inaugural season, the tournament was an invitational affair.

Several schools turned down Mr. Omer's invitation, most notably power-packed Joliet Central, which boasted one of the finest teams of the era. In all, 11 schools said "yes" and showed up at the Oak Park YMCA on the weekend of March 27-28.

Host Oak Park High School, with one of the largest enrollments in the state (605 students), was on hand along with tournament favorite Peoria Central. Standing 14-1 on the year, Peoria Central was led by arguably the best player in the first quarter-century of the tournament and the first great black athlete at an Illinois high school, Lynch Conway, who was known nation-wide as the star of the Peoria YMCA Clippers, a team that toured America annually and lost rarely.

But the other key cog in the Peoria machine was 6-foot-2½ center William Porrett, a giant in his day, who on Jan. 25 of that same season had scored a national record 64 points in a



STATE TOURNAMENT FLASHBACK

A series for the
Granite City Journal

game against Streator High School. Still, Peoria Central was not considered the best prep team in Illinois. Instead, the consensus was that Rockford High School was far and away the state's premier squad.

The Rockford RABS were 15-0 on the season, and had won 27 straight games over a two-year stretch. In that span, only three teams had played the RABS within 20 points. Rockford claimed the mythical state championship in 1907 and looked even better during the 1908 season.

But reading down the list of teams invited to Omer's invitational, Rock Island, Hinsdale, Evanston, Geneva, LaSalle, Mount Carroll, Riverside, St. Charles and Wheaton, the Rockford RABS are conspicuous by their absence.

There is no ready explanation as to why Omer overlooked Rockford, though the best theory is that the snub was payback for a drubbing Rockford had administered to Oak Park in a football game earlier that season. Omer, so the story runs, felt that Rockford ran up the score in that game and he was, in his own way, evening the score by leaving the RABS off the invitation list to his tournament.

Interestingly, another state power in 1908 was also absent from the state's first postseason tournament. Washington High School had an incredibly talented team and would have won the title that season. But when Omer drew up his list of tournament teams, it was decided that the Central Illinois representative would be the winner

of a pre-tournament game pitting Washington against Peoria Central in Peoria.

But Washington refused to play on Peoria's infamous "four iron posts" floor. Central's gym had four literal iron posts that were just as literally on the basketball court. They were affectionately known as Peoria's sixth through ninth men, as Les Strasser's boys would use the posts to screen opponents and, occasionally, to all but wipe out an unobservant player on the other team.

Peoria, on the other hand, refused to play in Washington because the gym floor was surrounded by chicken wire which, according to school administrators, was there "to keep unruly fans off the floor." Washington demanded a neutral site, but Omer held firm. It was play at Peoria or don't play at all. Washington immediately withdrew. Just as immediately, they were challenged by Rock Island to a game to determine the "real" state champion of Illinois.

It was no contest. Rockford ran Washington off the court, roaring to a decisive 58-21 victory. The RABS' state record 28th in succession. Meanwhile, back at the Oak Park YMCA, Peoria Central scored wins against Wheaton, Hinsdale and Rock Island to claim the first official state title in Illinois high school basketball history.

Most hoops experts of the day, however, still called Rockford the state's best team. But the RABS are forever lost in the wake of Peoria's run to the 1908 state title.

Margenthaler knew that his team was going to be the preseason but it won't be until late Saturday night after the regular season finale against UM-St. Louis that the Cougars know who and where they will be playing.

"We could be going to Lewis College, Northern Kentucky or Southern Indiana," Margenthaler said.

Kentucky Wesleyan, 22-1, won the regular season title in the GLVC and is ranked fourth in NCAA Division II.

Reports of Lincoln's loss were wrong Tigerettes top Maroons

By Patrick C. Heston
Staff writer

Internet surfers among the East St. Louis Lincoln faithful may have wondered, on waking Friday morning, whether the Tigerettes' 55-33 title game triumph against Belleville West in Thursday's regional championship game was merely a dream.

That's because the "Score Zone" on the Illinois High School Association's Web page listed Belleville West as the winner, 49-34. The IHSA had mistakenly put the Belleville East-Carmi White County score with the West-Lincoln game.

But after a couple of cups of coffee and calls to a few friends, reality set in. Lincoln did indeed win, holding the Lady Maroons to only 10 first half points and riding the combined 33 points of Rita Adams and LaKeisha Cole to the 22-point win.

Lincoln, the Sectional Complex's second seed, meets sixth-seeded Centralia 7:30 p.m. Monday in the second semifinal game of the Centralia Sectional. Top-seeded Mount Vernon squares off against Belleville East in the first semifinal game at 6 p.m.

West, seeded 10th coming in, was put away early by the fast-starting Tigerettes. Lincoln spurred to a 16-4 first-quarter lead and was in command 28-10 at the half.

Lawry netted 14 points for the losers, the only Lady Maroons player in double figures.

In other action from the Centralia Sectional, fourth-seeded Belleville East used a 14-0 run in the fourth quarter to put away Carmi

GIRLS BASKETBALL CLASS AA PLAYOFFS EAST ST. LOUIS LINCOLN 55, BELLEVILLE WEST 33

White County 49-34 as Leah Frierson scored 15 points; Centralia's Orphan Annie, fueled by Stephanie DePaw's game-high 17 points, ousted O'Fallon 47-39; and Mount Vernon crushed Carbondale 32-34 behind a game-best 18 points from Rasheeda Love.

The Centralia Sectional Complex champion will meet the winner from the Bethalto Sectional Complex on Monday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the Salem Super-Sectional.

In the Bethalto Complex, Collinsville's slow-down tactics slowed but didn't stop third-seeded Edwardsville, as the Lady Tigers advanced to the sectional semifinals with a hard-fought 35-23 win. Jacques Woosley hit 19 points for Edwardsville and teammate Jada Hogg pulled down 15 rebounds. Collinsville's Autumn Dow had 14 points and 12 boards.

In other Complex action, fourth-seeded Paris defeated fifth-seeded Jerseyville 63-51; second-seeded Edwardsville, as the state's third-ranked team and the top seed at Bethalto, trounced Highland 33-35.

Paris (18-6) at 6 p.m. Monday in the first semifinal game at Bethalto. Edwardsville (20-6) faces Olney East (29-0) at 7:30 p.m.

Winners of the semifinal slurms will clash at 7:30 p.m. Thursday for the sectional title and a trip to Salem.

SIU-Edwardsville set for GLVC tourney

By Bill Hester
Correspondent

Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville men's basketball coach Jack Margenthaler was in favor of having a conference tournament in the Great Lakes Valley Conference before the season began.

But he is even happier now that the GLVC is having its first postseason tournament after the regular season, which ended for the Cougars on Saturday at the University of Missouri-St. Louis Saturday night. "I love it," Margenthaler

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

said of the conference tournament. "It's made for a team like us. We feel we are as good as the top team in the conference and this gives us a second chance. If we win three games, we go to the national tournament. Without the conference tournament, we wouldn't have a chance."

Margenthaler's primary goal since the opening game of the season was to finish in the top seven in the GLVC and thus qualify for the tournament. "We've had our ups and our

downs throughout the season," Margenthaler said. "But we've never wavered from our pre-season goal of making it to the tournament."

Now that the Cougars have qualified for the tournament, Margenthaler can set some new goals for his team.

"We've played well enough that we should go to the tournament with high expectations," he said. "I'm excited about the way we are playing right now. I like the attitude and focus of the kids. We're healthy and ready for tournament play."

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SOCIETY NEWS

McGary new pastor at St. John Park District sets trips for 1998

The Rev. Denise McGary was called to be associate pastor at St. John United Church of Christ in Granite City.

McGary is a native of St. Louis. She is a 1975 graduate of Riverview Gardens High School, a 1980 graduate of the University of Missouri-St. Louis and a 1997 graduate of Eden Theological Seminary.

She has bachelors degrees in elementary/early childhood education and taught grades 4 to 6 in the Riverview Gardens School District from 1981 to 1994.

She and her husband, Bob, have been married for 15 years. He is a senior customer service engineer for Xerox Corp. They live in Bridgeton, Mo., and enjoy traveling.

McGary was ordained at her home church, Faith-Salem United Church of Christ in Jennings, Mo. on Feb. 15, and began full-time at St. John on Feb. 1.



Rev. Denise McGary

Her responsibilities include youth ministry, Christian education and church administration, as well as a full range of pastoral duties, preaching, teaching, visitations and presiding at funerals and weddings.

The Granite City Park District will be sponsoring nine overnight trips during 1998. A brochure with details of each trip and the amount per person may be picked up at the Wilson Park Office.

The following lists the destination of each trip along with the travel dates and the date it goes on sale.

• March 20-22 — Branson, Mo. on sale.

• April 6-9 — Georgia's Gardens and Games, on sale March 4.

• May 19-21 — "Europe Without a Passport" Cedar Rapids and Amarna, Iowa, on sale April 14.

• June 16-18 — Lake Geneva, Wis., on sale May 13.

• July 14-17 — "Meander Thru Michigan," on sale June 3.

• Aug. 17-19 — "Big Band at Bearcreek," on sale July 8.

• Sept. 16-18 — "Galena, The Town That Time Forgot," on sale July 30.

• Oct. 14-16 — Eureka Springs/War Eagle Crafts, on sale Sept. 3.

• Dec. 4-6 — "Ozark Mountain Christmas," on sale Oct. 29.

Registration for all trips begins at 8 a.m. on the designated date at the Wilson Park Ice Rink. Residents of the Park District have priority in signing up.

Nonresidents at the rink will be placed immediately on a waiting list and called one week later if there is availability. Those not wanting to go to the rink may call the Park District Office after noon on the first day of registration.

All fees must be paid at time of sign up. One person may reserve only one room which may be for from one to four people. If it is not husband and wife, proof of residence must be presented for each person in the room.



Eta holds meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Eta Alumnae Chapter, Phi Tau Omega Sorority was held Feb. 4 at Charlie's Restaurant, hosted by Elsie Redell. Nine members attended. Following a brief business session, conducted by Millie Hoelscher, Betty Harris, Marguerite Lexow, Ann McDowell, Van Stuart, Mary Tonsick and Mary Yenchow. The next meeting will be March 4, with hostesses Van Stuart and Betty Harris.

Song of praise

Sons of the Father — Les, Chris and Brent Snyder — are performing at 10:40 a.m. March 15 at Calvary Baptist Church, 30th and Washington in Granite City. Les Snyder, called to a full-time traveling ministry in 1976, tours the nation with sons Chris and Brent, singing the Gospel and presenting "Scripture sermons," using memorized sections of the Bible. Their music is distinctive, using a cappella and sound tracks, varying from the traditional hymn to progressive Gospel styles.

Extension group readies for meetings

The February Meeting of the Granite City Unit of Home Extension was held Feb. 3 at the Anchorage Recreational Center. Mary Evalyne Yenchow gave the invocation and a desert lunch was served by the hostesses Amy Thebeau and Nina Dittman.

The meeting was then opened by President Mary Thebeau with all present reciting the pledge to the flag, and the Homemaker's Aim. Elizabeth Schmidt won the attendance prize. Roll call was taken by Secretary Mary Evalyne Yenchow with 10 members present.

The lesson "Changing American Family" was given by Mary Thebeau and Nina Dittman and was very interesting. The secretary read the new changes to the bylaws. Dues will be paid in January of each year instead of September, and must be paid by March 31. It was announced that the annual conference will be March 24-26 at the Holiday Inn East in Springfield. It was also announced the Madison County Home Extension annual meeting will be April 30 at Eden United Church of Christ in Edwardsville. Registration will be at 9 a.m. and the meeting will start at 9:30. Lunch will be served at noon.

The hostesses and lesson givers for March will be Sophia Thomas and Ann Miller and the subject will be "Gardening with Annuals."

The Homemaker's Creed was led by Vincine Zerlan and the meeting adjourned.

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Employment

Golf course superintendent must know grasses

By Steve Bryan

When discussing great names in golf, forget all about Tiger Woods and Arnold Palmer. The most famous name associated with that sport is Carl, the assistant greenskeeper from "Caddyshack."

Carl, as played by Bill Murray, spent the majority of the movie hunting a gopher that dug holes in the golf course. In the end, Carl caused more damage on the course than the gopher ever did.

"A lot of people ask me what I do," said Dennis O'Brien, golf course superintendent at Tapawingo National Golf Club, 1255 W. Watson Road. "I ask them if they've seen 'Caddyshack.' I tell them that I'm a sophisticated greenskeeper."

He had problems with gophers, but he has a big problem with moles. They tunnel under the course, push soil around and make mounds," he said.



Dennis O'Brien checks the turf on a course at Tapawingo Golf Club in Sunset Hills.

"A lot of people ask me what I do. I ask them if they've seen 'Caddyshack.' I tell them that I'm a sophisticated Carl. He had problems with gophers, but we have a big problem with moles. They tunnel under the course, push soil around and make mounds."

Dennis O'Brien
Golf course superintendent

careful."

O'Brien has a bachelor of science degree in agriculture. He started out studying forestry at Missouri but, since he had worked at a golf course, switched his major to turfgrass management.

His education helps him on

the job at Tapawingo. A golf course superintendent must know and understand the different grasses plus the ever-changing St. Louis weather.

"We're in what they call the 'transition zone.' We can grow warm-season grasses like zoysia and Bermuda or cool-season

grasses like Kentucky bluegrass and creeping bentgrass," O'Brien said.

It's hard to keep cool-season grass alive in July or keep warm-season grass alive in zero degree temperatures. Springfield, Ill., can't grow zoysia and, if you go south, it's hard for them to grow bentgrass," he said.

In recent years, various environmental groups blamed golf courses for harming wildlife by destroying the natural habitats of some creatures and upsetting the balance of nature through tree clearing.

"There's plenty of wildlife around here. We have deer, turkey, foxes, skunks and we even had an American Bald Eagle once," O'Brien said.

Job fairs offer great opportunities

By Steve Bryan

Of the various employment resources available today, job fairs offer some of the best opportunities to find the right job.

Companies will sometimes have openings, typically ones which require a technical or computer background, that they haven't been able to fill through newspaper ads or employment agencies.

These employers will then invite professionals with the right experience to visit with hiring managers at a job fair held in a hotel conference room or at the company itself. If enough people attend, they should find a few prospective employees.

Other job fairs, typically conducted at shopping malls throughout the St. Louis area, are designed to help school or college students find work for the summer months. As graduation time rapidly approaches, colleges and universities host job fairs which are open to any and all job seekers. These are normally advertised in the classified sections of newspapers.

Job fairs like these offer the unique opportunity for job hunters to speak with hundreds of employers face-to-face. "People do get hired from job fairs. People who go into it with the right mental attitude will be successful," Kettler said.

Job seekers should maximize their time at a job fair," said Deborah Kettler, director of career services at the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL).

"This means they should come early and leave late. They should plan to make contact with as many employers as possible," she said.

On March 5 and 6, UMSL will host a job fair sponsored by 48 colleges and universities in Missouri and Southern Illinois.

"Last year, we had 130 companies who set up booths. This year, we should do more because the job market is so good," Kettler said.

Some job seekers incorrectly think that a job fair is a casual gathering of employers and job seekers. "People do get hired from job fairs. People who go into it with the right mental attitude will be successful," Kettler said.

The right mental attitude means, as always, lots of preparation and planning.

Job seekers should dress as if they are going to an interview and carry several copies of their resume, transcripts and other supporting materials to show their marketability.

"Have your '1 minute commercial' ready," Kettler said. "That means when you walk up to a booth or table, stick out your hand and say 'My name is and I'm looking for a job as, or I'm graduating on and what I hope to do is...'"

Don't be afraid to ask for business cards. Ask them if it's OK to call them. Even if they talk to 50 people, they will remember you. They'll write observations on the resume and do a follow-up later on," she said.

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Brinks Inc., the leader in the armored car industry, has immediate openings for drivers in the St. Louis area. Apply in person at: [Address]

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DIRECTOR OF MARKETING SERVICES
(Search Extended)

Belleville Area College is again accepting applications for the position of Director of Marketing Services. This is a full-time administrative position reporting to the Vice President for Student Development. This position is responsible for developing, coordinating and implementing a comprehensive marketing and promotion program for the district, supervising the media services staff, directing the writing, design and production of college publications while establishing and maintaining a consistent graphics image for the college; preparing and disseminating public information regarding the college. The successful candidate will lead an office in which the quality of work reflects directly on the College's reputation for excellence. The director will also take a key role in addressing marketing issues of the future.

Qualifications: Exceptional verbal and written communication skills are required. Bachelor's degree in a relevant discipline is required. Master's degree is preferred. A minimum of two years pertinent professional experience, preferably in a college setting, is required.

Starting Salary: The annual starting salary range is \$50,000 - \$53,000.

Work Location: Belleville campus with district wide responsibilities.

Application Procedure: Respond with cover letter, current resume, college transcripts, and list of three references. Candidates should be prepared to present an appropriate portfolio. Finalists for the position will be required to complete a college employment application form. Previous applications will remain on file and need not be resubmitted.

Respond by: March 20, 1998, 4:00 p.m. Send application materials to:

**HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE
BELLEVILLE AREA COLLEGE
2500 CARLYLE AVENUE
BELLEVILLE, MO 62221**

Belleville Area College is an EEO/AA Employer/Educator

EVEN START PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Belleville Area College is accepting applications for the full-time administrative position of Even Start Program Director. This is a grant-funded position contingent upon continuous grant funding. Even Start is a family-centered education program involving parents with low-level basic educational skills. The incumbent will recruit families to set up individual educational plans to improve their educational skills and employment. Individual will monitor and facilitate the progress toward the plan objectives; schedule program activities; manage the Even Start budget; supervise program staff; write the Even Start grant application; and will maintain a caseload of families.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in social work, human services, education, or a related field is required. Master's degree is preferred. Two(2) years of full-time professional experience working with at-risk children or adults required. Ability to work flexible schedule, including evenings and possible weekends.

SALARY: \$30,600 per year.

WORK LOCATION: Cahokia Goodwill Industries Office, Cahokia, Illinois.

Application deadline is March 9, 1998, 4:00 p.m. or postmarked that date. Respond with cover letter, current resume, college transcripts, and list of three references to:

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Own Your Own Home in '98

On The HOUSE



By Rita Glastris, GRI, CRS

The User

It started in the 80s. Has continued in the 90s. The "user friendly" concept.

Sarah loves the terminology. All her appliances are user friendly. Her computer is user friendly. She is intrigued with the notion. Even incorporates it in her lifestyle. Except with a twist. Sarah is a "friendly user."

Sarah uses real estate agents. Unmercifully. More out of ignorance than malicious intent. Never the less, she takes advantage of them to the hilt.

Sarah lives in a small but comfortable little house. Just being friendly about buying another. For years. Not positive about it. Just maybe. Isn't sure but she wants. Says "she'll know it when she sees it." Meanwhile she skips the precious time of agent after agent looking at every listing that comes on the market in areas she likes.

Sometimes Sarah tells agents to show her only new construction. When all she's really interested in seeing is the latest decorating ideas in the display houses.

House hunting is game for Sarah. And real estate agents are her pawns. She expects them to play taxi driver, tour guide and lunch provider. And to be at her beck and call when she wants them.

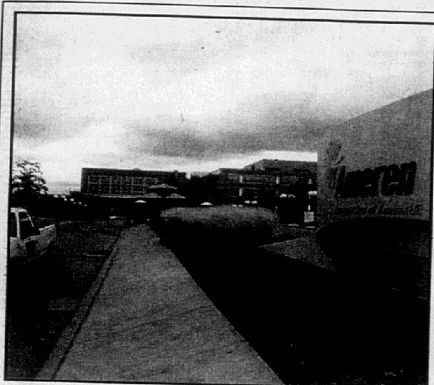
There are lots of friendly users like Sarah in the world. The classic is the seller who offers his house for sale by owner. Using the knowledge he has culled from the experience, hard work, and creative marketing ideas of three or more agents he fraudulently lures to his house on the pretext of wanting to list it.

Of course, an experienced agent catches on to the friendly user game. But when the Sarahs of the world have usually stolen a valuable and irrefutable way, maybe more, out of the agent's life.

Sarah is cute but has no conscience. And no conception of the time, energy, education and money a good real estate agent serving the metropolitan area is worth. If you are inclined to act like Sarah, pause and think for a moment. Would you like someone to be a friendly user of you?

Rita Glastris, GRI, CRS, is a full time real estate agent serving the metropolitan area for over 16 years. She is a multi-million dollar producer, a member of her company's Excellence Club, and a Life Member of Missouri's Million Dollar Club. Readers wanting specific topics discussed are invited to send requests to: On The House, Suburban Journals, 1714 Deer Tracks Trail, St. Louis, 63171.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1998



(Staff photo by RICK GRAEFE)

Union Electric is now known as AmerenUE, after it was merged last year with Central Illinois Public Service Co. to create parent company Ameren Corp.

Big biz buzz

Leaner business machine is goal

By Dan Yount
Staff writer

Boeing Co.

AmerenUE

Some major employers in the metropolitan area are changing in hopes of making themselves more competitive and profitable. AmerenUE, Solutia and Boeing may be new names, but the companies have had a long history in St. Louis. AmerenUE was formerly Union Electric Co., Solutia was under the Monsanto umbrella until September, and Boeing is the company created out of last year's merger between McDonnell Douglas Corp. and the

Union Electric Co. has a new name, a new parent company and a new partner in providing energy services. The St. Louis-based Union Electric Co. and Central Illinois Public Service Co. Inc., based in Springfield, completed their merger Dec. 31 to create Ameren Corp. Ameren is the parent company of Union Electric, now known as AmerenUE, and Central Illinois Public Service Co. — now known as (See Biz, Page 4C)

Area population shifting

Migration is to less urban areas

By Mark Hodapp
Staff writer

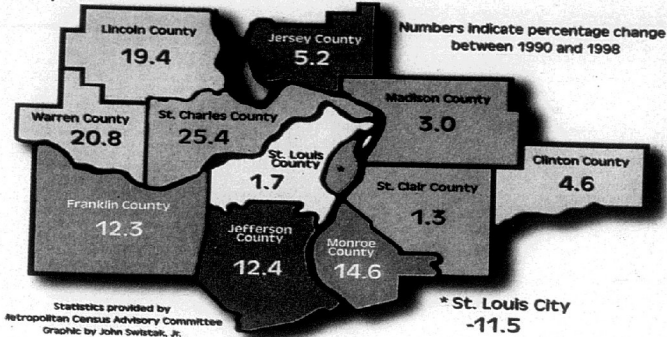
The population of the St. Louis Metro Area is shifting according to a study by the St. Louis Chapter of the American Statistical Association. While the Metro Area's population has increased by a modest 3.3 percent since 1990, the population of St. Charles County has grown by more than 25 percent during that time. The Metro Area includes St. Louis, Jefferson, Lincoln, St. Charles, St. Louis and Warren counties in Missouri and the Illinois counties of Clinton, Jersey, Madison, Monroe and St. Clair.

The ASA put the current population of the Metro Area at 2,576,500, which represents an increase of about 82,950 people since 1990, at which time the census counted 2,493,550 people in the 12 counties in the metro area.

A population increase of 2.8 percent from 1990-96 was estimated for the five Illinois counties, with Monroe's population increasing by the greatest amount, 14.6 percent.

The Illinois counties had an estimated total population of 605,700, according to the ASA. According to the 1990 Census, there were 588,845 people living in these five Illinois counties.

By the year 2000, the population of the Metro Area is projected at 2.6 million, an increase of 4.4 percent over the 1990 estimate and up 1 per-



'I believe it (population drop in older cities) is an indication of the different lifestyle society wants today.'

— John Baricevic
Board chairman

cent from 1998, according to the ASA.

Population estimates for individual Metro Area counties followed a pattern of migration to less urbanized areas. The ASA discovered that St. Charles, Warren and Lincoln counties had posted the largest population gains since 1990. St. Charles County's population increased by an estimated 25.4 percent. Warren and Lincoln counties' estimates showed gains of 20.8 percent and 19.4 percent, respectively. St. Louis County grew at a

slower rate from 1990 to 1996. The number of births narrowly exceeded the number of losses from deaths and migration. It was estimated that the population of St. Louis County increased by 1.7 percent, or 17,000 people.

It also was estimated that the population of St. Louis city declined by about 11.5 percent, or 45,700 people, in that time. St. Clair County Board Chairman John Baricevic and Michael Duncan of the St. Louis Department of Planning both said they expect the cur-

rent population trends to continue.

"As Americans become more affluent, they seek bigger yards," Baricevic said. St. Clair County's 1998 population was 266,300, up from 262,852 in 1990. The fastest-growing cities in the county from 1990 to 1996 were Shiloh, with a 38 percent increase, and O'Fallon, up 15.8 percent.

O'Fallon and Shiloh completed a special census in 1996. Belleville, the largest municipality in St. Clair County with a population of 41,608, decreased by 2.8 percent.

Madison County's largest city, Alton, showed a 4.5 percent decrease in population since 1990, to 31,260 residents. Baricevic said he does not believe the declining populations of Alton, Belleville and St. Louis indicate that these cities are decaying.

"I believe it is an indication (See POPULATION, Page 3C)

Orange barrel rodeo

Metro highway construction will boom in '98

By Tim Rowden
Staff writer

A person would be hard pressed to find a road to anywhere in the Metropolitan area these days that is not lined with orange barrels.

Slowing for traffic through construction zones has become as routine a rush hour and taxes.

Area highway engineers and planners said relief is on the way, but so are more barrels. "The intent is to both improve mobility and, of course, improve the quality of the roadway," said Barry Bergman, Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) project manager for St. Louis and St. Charles counties.

Such is the case on the controversial Page Avenue extension, where construction has already begun on a series of improvements, which will eventually take the expressway through Creve Coeur Park.

"We've got three projects now awarded," Bergman said. "The Bennington Bridge, and the two contracts on the Missouri River Bridge."

Opponents have filed petitions with the St. Louis County Election Board to ask voters to overturn an ordinance giving the state the right of way and easements to take the expressway through the park.

A bill to stop any action on the project until voters can consider a November referendum

"The lack of federal funding is causing some delays in projects. We're hopeful a new bill will be signed sometime in the future but we don't know exactly when that will occur."

— Jim Easterly
IDOT official

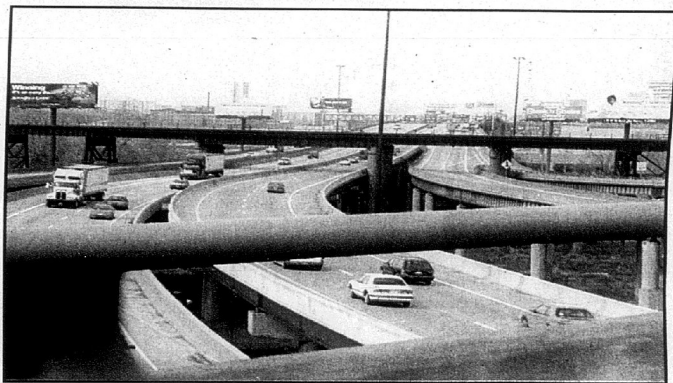
on the matters was introduced in the Missouri House Feb. 12.

Improvements also are under way on Hwy. 40 from St. Louis to St. Charles, where crews are working to bring the highway through St. Charles County up to interstate standards.

Other projects that cross county lines are also under way.

"The cross county project will do both road and transit improvements to Hwy. 40 and to the innerbelt," Bergman said. "We're looking at some interchange modifications and coordination with Bi-State as far as the extension of Metro Link down to Interstate 44."

(See HIGHWAYS, Page 6C)



(Staff photo by JOHN FRESSE)

More than \$7 million has been set aside in Missouri and Illinois to pay for the two-state project on the Poplar Street Bridge approaches. The view here is from Illinois 3 at the approach to the westbound lanes. Officials are also hoping to ease wear on the bridge sometime in the next century by construction of a new Mississippi River bridge.

More changes, ... bank on it

By Jim Merkel
Staff writer

The winds of change have swept through the area's banking industry in the last two years, dramatically shifting the way banking business is conducted in St. Louis.

Boatmen's is gone, swallowed up by NationsBank. Mark Twain Bank and Roosevelt Bank also are part of the past, after Mercantile Bancorp swallowed them up.

When that round of big fish eating smaller fish ended in 1997, Mercantile was the number one bank in the area, fol-

lowed by NationsBank. Together, they hold more than 45 percent of deposits in local banks and dominate the St. Louis area market.

Two local bankers say it's part of a continuing trend toward consolidation that will lead customers to choose between two kinds of banks.

On one side, there will be a small number of large banks, and on the other, small community banks providing "niche" services.

"I see the banking industry in the St. Louis metropolitan area basically becoming a (See BANKS, Page 4C)



(Staff photo by JOHN FRESSE)

Moving forward — The first event at the remodeled Gateway International Raceway was the Motorola 300. This year, the track has added 10,000 more seats and another race at the oval track.

Tourism is major industry for area

Major projects totaling

"How far can the metro area legitimately expand to the west?" Pennekamp said. "I think we're seeing that west-

The Leadership Council is not "aggressively" pursuing Missouri businesses, Pennekamp said, but "Illinois is the place where a lot of people should be looking."

"There are folks who are taking a good hard look at Illinois," he said.

Association, and are based on 1996 data.

"If we did it (the study) ourselves, people would say it's not true," Westhoff said. Westhoff also pointed out

and spend money on entertainment.
"Those are tourists, and they make up a huge
(See TOURISM, Page 3C)

"I think we are well prepared to take on that challenge," he said. "It's not just government, it's not just business, it's partnership."

Rep. Steve Davis

Granite City's annexation of the old Union Electric property on the north end of the city, and hinted at the possibility of Granite City moving further south around the Horseshoe Lake area.

"We're looking at major expansion," Davis said. "And ... I think the most important thing that

"I was fortunate to be the chief sponsor (on 1997 legislation) . . . and one of them was the enterprise zone and the Dial Corporation," Holbrook said.

Davis said after the fall elections, the legislature will probably raise the possibility of a gas tax increase, part-

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(See PROGRAMS, Page 5C)

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early 1990s.
"We'll resub-

Granite City adds to impressive industrial list

By Scott Kelly
Staff writer

Granite City is making progress adding to its already stellar industrial legacy.

In November, the Granite City Council unanimously approved the acquisition of 122 acres from Norfolk Southern Railroad and a related land sale to a new light industrial.

A major portion of the land between Highway 3 and Missouri Avenue and north of Tower Automotive was used to create Granite City Industrial Park.

Granite City's industrial community soon gained a new neighbor, one city officials hope will spark massive growth along the Illinois 3 corridor.

Midwest Metal Coating came about last year after numerous Granite City and area entities worked closely to convince Midwest to set up shop in the industrial park.

"This is the initial step in the development of light industry along our Highway 3 corridor," Mayor Ron Selph said of the city's acquiring the land.

Costs and land were two large obstacles in bringing the new Midwest Metal Coating to the city, but with the help of R.C. Bush and the Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce, and a lot of hard work by Dan Brown, director of economic development and numerous other city and area officials, Midwest agreed to come to town.

While helping to bring the new, major industry to Granite City, area leaders came to realize the city itself had to be

the developer.

Infrastructure funding came from the Madison County Board, which gave the city a 25 percent grant on the road and on the holding ponds, and allowed the city to borrow money for the road. The Madison County Special Sewer District agreed to extend sewer service to the development. Other funding mechanisms were put in place.

"The only problem was we were going to have a debt service of \$112,000 to \$115,000 a year to pay off these loans," Brown said. "So we went into prolonged negotiations with Precast."

Precast was originally going to build a 75,000-square-foot plant that would have generated \$80,000 a year in revenue, which left the city \$30,000 to \$35,000 short on its debt service.

"As we kept going through the negotiations, Midwest kept increasing the size of its plant... which is increasing the revenue because we capture the TIF revenue based on the taxes that are generated from the building to somewhere over \$100,000," Brown said.

"As part of our final negotiations with them, they have agreed if we have a shortfall in the first two years, they will make up any of that shortfall up to \$25,000," he said.

Therefore, he said, the city has a two-year window to develop the rest of the project.

The next step was to secure a 50-foot easement from Norfolk Southern along the railroad's loop track, sandwiched

PROGRESS

between Illinois 3, Missouri Avenue and Pontoon Road.

Joe Darling, project manager for Midwest Metal Coating, said Midwest is a joint venture between Precast Metals and NCI, National Components Inc. out of Houston, Texas. NCI is one of Precast's biggest customers, he said.

"It was kind of a natural fit to go into a joint venture with them," Darling said.

Midwest bought approximately 18 acres from the city, at a cost of \$270,000. It began building a 94,000-square-foot plant in early February; the budget for the project is between \$12 million and \$15 million.

"We're going to process hot rolled steel, the first thing that comes out of the mill," Darling said.

The plant will have the capacity of approximately 250,000 tons a year, and will process 60,000 pound coils 60 inches wide, 84 inches in diameter from Granite City Steel.

"We're going to paint this material — red, green, gray, maybe white," he said. "It will be coiled back up into coil form... and we'll take it onto a slitter."

The slitter cuts the coils into various widths. The product will then be shipped to NCI and other metal-building companies.

Midwest will also perform some laminating of galvanized steel.

The company will probably be up and fully running by the end of the summer.

New police station Collinsville reality

By Nicole Vaughn
Staff writer

Collinsville Police Chief Gerrit Gillespie probably smiles every time he rounds the corner of Clay and Clinton.

It's not that the gigantic vacant lot would be particularly pleasing to him; it's the anticipation of a new 18,700-square-foot police station that is to be built there.

"It's very exciting to know this is finally going to happen," Gillespie said.

After years of discussion and planning, construction is slated to begin in May. The site is located in the 200 block of West Clay between Seminary and Clinton Streets.

While it won't have a basement, the \$3.9-million station will have a Sally port, a fenced parking area, a physical training area, a lunch room, expanded evidence storage space and a conference/briefing room that can be used by all city employees. Eight cells for male prisoners and two cells for females — compared to the current five, total — and the addition of public restrooms also are among its key features.

Assistant City Manager for Special Projects John Swindle said officials are hoping

for a ground-breaking in early May.

"It would really be a milestone," he said. "The project initially was to have started last fall but disagreements over design and funding caused some delay."

"We'd hoped to start last fall," Swindle said. "Once we'd missed that, it wouldn't have made much sense to start it in January or February. We're probably starting at the optimum time."

AAI Campbell, architects for the project, were finishing up specifications and other paperwork for the project this month and planned to seek bids March 2. They will be opened March 23 with a contract being awarded a few weeks later, Swindle said.

While the demolition of three buildings and the removal of underground storage tanks on the site went off without a hitch last year, some unanticipated fill material that surfaced recently has caused at least a minor glitch. Cinders, bricks and wood placed on the site in the last 50 to 100 years are unsuitable fill, officials said.

Swindle said he heard stories of similar situations on nearby sites.

"It's probably not an uncommon thing," he said.

Tiny town may become known for parks

By Marge Wilson
Staff writer

It may take a while, but Millstadt is on its way to becoming a village of parks.

The small town presently has two city parks with ball facilities for all ages, and is on its way to an 11-acre nature park and an expanded 1.5-acre area where little ones can play t-ball.

Village officials were turned down by the state recently for the near-\$65,000 grant they were asking to develop the nature park. However, turn-downs happen often and aren't necessarily the last word, Millstadt Mayor Alvin Mehrtens said.

"We submitted a grant application for the new park addition three times before we got it," he said, referring to the park the village built in the early 1990s.

"We'll resubmit (the nature

'The state couldn't make the funds reach all the requests. Half of those applying for funds didn't get them.'

Alvin Mehrtens
Millstadt mayor

park application) next year. The state couldn't make the funds reach all the requests. Half of those applying for funds didn't get them," he said.

When the nature park is built, it will be on the vacant ground created when the village landfill was covered. This location is in the southeast part of town between Pine Street and the sewage treatment plant.

According to a design by the engineering firm of Thouvenot, Wade and Moerchen of Belleville, the area will be planted

with native Illinois plants such as prairie grass, a butterfly garden, roses and 19 other species. So that all visitors can see the different species, there will be an asphalt wheelchair-accessible path to each planting area, Mehrtens said.

"In addition, there will be another, woodchip-covered path and the creek will be bridged a couple of times," he said. "Along these paths there will occasionally be covered shelter areas with park benches where people can sit down and enjoy their surroundings and commune with nature."

Mehrtens said the park is an appropriate use of the land because the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency advises municipalities not to build structures on the site of a former landfill, even though the agency requires eight feet of soil as a cover for the site.

The village received final approval for the closing of the former dump site after it was tested for five years and no leachate was found, Mehrtens said.

A site similar to that for the nature park will be used for expansion of the Elm Street Park for the little t-ball players, the mayor said.

The village recently acquired land on the south side of Elm Street between Lafayette and Jackson streets. The village plans to close the street and replace the asphalt with grass and trees. The park will extend uninterrupted from (See PARKS, Page 7C)

Tourism

(Continued from Page 2C)

amount of the visitors," he said.

St. Clair County tourism generated \$210 million dollars, while Madison County brought in \$177 million.

In 1996, St. Clair County's tourism revenue increased by a "very substantial" 15.7 percent, while Madison County's increased \$15.2 percent.

Tourism dollars also translate into jobs, payroll, and state and local tax receipts," he said.

"Of the 102 counties in Illinois, St. Clair County ranked seventh and Madison County

ranked 10th in tourism revenue," Westhoff added.

"This is very notable for the top four counties (Cook and three adjacent counties) account for almost 80 percent of total tourism dollars in the state."

Since 1995, he said, tourism increased 20.7 percent, and employment in the tourism industry has increased by more than 1,200 jobs.

"All this reinforces the significance and vast importance of tourism and the immense economic impact it imparts to Southwestern Illinois," he said.

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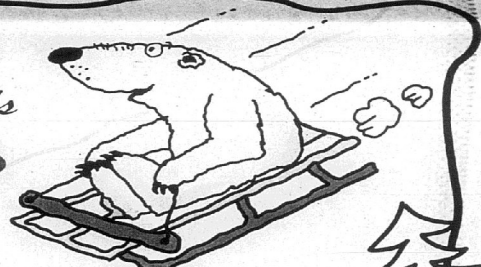
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1 Year No Interest

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(Continued from Page 10)

After that, the list drops off. Magna Group is in third place, with 7.77 percent, followed

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Boeing

Boeing

McDonnell Douglas has provided combat air-

moniker and company headquarters in St. Louis, there has been little effect on employees or operations of the former McDonnell Douglas company in St. Louis or nationwide since the merger, Brett said.

McDonnell Douglas employed about 22,800 people in St. Louis before the merger, and that level of employment has remained about the same here, she said. All of McDonnell Douglas' early 54,000 employees nationwide were absorbed by Boeing, she said. However, Boeing does not plan to move any new lines to St. Louis production facilities in the near future,


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St. Mary's Hospital responds to needs

The winds of change have blown a little too strongly in the health care industry during the past decade. New financial realities have been brought on by the advent of managed care and Medicaid and Medicare. Health-care recipients and providers have been in danger of being left out in the cold.

St. Mary's Hospital of East St. Louis has weathered those storms and has emerged as a stronger network health care services focused on meeting the special and distinct needs of the communities it serves.

During the past few years, St. Mary's has launched an innovative, hospital-owned Medicaid managed care plan, which expands benefits for area Medicaid recipients. The hospital has also added critical facilities, such as a dialysis unit and a modern physicians' office building, and has renovated others, such as its Level II Trauma Center and its patient rooms.

Currently, the hospital is completing a major expansion and renovation of its pediatric unit, which will include six patient areas, an isolation room directly in the unit and a brand-new play area. There will be accommodations for

parents — special showers, meals, and places for parents who wish to stay overnight with their children.

Most importantly, St. Mary's has recruited more primary care physicians and specialists to work in the community. This core of highly qualified physicians is supported by St. Mary's Hospital's affiliation with SSM Health Care, an all-Catholic network of both adult and pediatric tertiary care centers in St. Louis. These physicians and the larger network to which the hospital belongs guarantee access to the highest quality care for the patients that the hospital serves. St. Mary's markets the services of its physicians group to new businesses to keep health care dollars in the local community.

The only way for St. Mary's Hospital — or any health care facility — to succeed in a constantly changing environment is to stay focused on the needs of its community and to be willing to change and grow to meet those needs. St. Mary's will continue to stay focused on its core mission and values by staying connected and responsive to its patients and its community into the new century.



Jack and Jill's offers best in new, used furniture

Jack and Jill's Furniture, 1261 Niedringhaus Ave., open its doors in November 1993. The company offers new and pre-owned furniture, used appliances, carpet and accessories, as well as children's items and clothes.

Owners and operators are William "Buddy" Robbins and Jack and Roberta Barhan. Jack and Jill's started in the old Western Auto building on 2001 Grand, with 5,000 square feet of space, as mainly an outlet for the resale of furniture and children's cribs,

clothing and accessories. In June 1995, the old caved in and the building was no longer structurally sound.

The company then acquired its new location on Niedringhaus. Robbins and the others completely remodeled and renovated the building. The new location has three floors and a full basement for a total of 28,000 square feet.

Several name brands of quality furniture are available at the new Jack and Jill's, including Millennium, Hancock and Comfort. They still take

trade-ins and buy and sell quality pre-owned items.

Jack and Jill's also serves as a payment center for customers of Illinois Power, Illinois-American Water Co. and Ameritech.

Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday.

Jack and Jill's owners are involved in community activities, including sponsoring several softball teams. They also decorated their storefront for Christmas in December.

Programs

(Continued from Page 2C)

enough money in the transportation budget for new construction such as a new Mississippi River bridge.

The relocation of Hwy. 3 and the new bridge will top the list of important items for the whole Metro East delegation, Democrats and Republicans, Holbrook said.

"We plan to make it a requirement for any type of revenue enhancement passed that in the Metro East none of us will go along with these programs until we see the Mississippi River bridge and a couple other issues passed," he said.

"It gives tax credits to businesses who voluntarily clean up polluted sites," he said.

Companies have to get the EPA involved with the cleanup process, and there is a financial cap of how much the tax credits can be per site, he said.

"There's a sunset in that at the governor's request," Holbrook said. "It's Dec. 31, 2001." At that date, the legislation expires, but it could be expanded.

"It's much better to be proactive in EPA issues than reactive," he said.

The rules for the legislation are expected to be set in the next few weeks.

DURING THE VETO session, the state passed a controversial education funding package.

"It raises \$485 million for education in the state of Illinois, and it has pluses and minuses," Davis said. "The money is good, but unfortunately it was a band-aid approach to funding education. Education will continue to be a challenge... we spend \$6 billion right now in the state of Illinois on secondary and elementary education, and still it is not enough money."

Holbrook agreed. "I don't think it solved our problems long term, but certainly it helped out short term," he said. "With that

said, I would think we're not going to be looking at anything with school funding for the next few years."

Davis said the legislature will continue to help make sure Illinois children are able to compete in the world economy.

TIF DISTRICTS, or tax increment financing districts, are special areas where money from taxes is put back in the development for a certain number of years. Holbrook said he wished the legislature had done something on them last year. Ideally, TIFs are intended only for truly blighted urban areas.

"There are so many people using them out in cornfields right now. As more and more of these problems come up with TIF districts, there are more and more people who want to eliminate them completely," he said.

"I would like to have seen some limitations on TIFs. They should be used mainly in urban areas where we really have to have the development," he said.

"If we don't make some changes on that program soon I'm afraid the naysayers in the legislature may end up shutting the program off completely, and it's a very valuable program," Holbrook said.

Population

(Continued from Page 1C)

of the different lifestyle society wants today," he said.

Older cities like Webster Groves and Kirkwood in Missouri are not experiencing growth, he said, but they are maintaining their land values.

Baricovic said he does not expect that St. Clair County will experience the rapid growth currently under way in St. Charles County.

"I think slow, steady growth is better for a region," he said.

Duncan said residents are migrating from the bottom lands to the bluffs. He said Lincoln and Warren counties in Missouri, and Madison, and Warren counties in Illinois are attractive to residents because land and housing are available at lower costs. "That's a

plus," he said.

Monroe County's population was listed at 25,700 in 1998, up from 24,422 in 1990. The cities there with the fastest-growing populations were Waterloo, with a 17.5 percent increase, and Columbia, with a 16.4 percent increase.

Madison County's population has increased from 249,238 in 1990 to 256,600 in 1998. Its fastest-growing cities were Glen Carbon (22.9 percent) and Troy (17.2 percent).

Duncan said the Metro Area is experiencing a "pull-and-push factor." Many people are leaving older cities for newer subdivisions. "The loss of St. Louis' population has been going on for 50 years," he said.

Duncan said he expects that cities located near an interstate will continue to grow, too. "I can't overestimate how important (the interstate) is," he said.

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PROGRESS

Highways

(Continued from Page 1C)

Meanwhile, efforts to widen Hwy. 141 from two to four or more lanes are continuing.

"The part from I-44 south, some of that should be done this year," Bergman said. "There's other projects that we just let from Manchester north that will be ongoing for several years."

Improvement to the Interstate 70 corridor from downtown St. Louis to Lambert Airport also is expected to continue for several years.

"We've started the job down in front of the Trans World Dome on the I-70 bridge there," Bergman said. "And we've started rehabilitation as well and ramp revisions to improve access to the Martin Luther King bridge."

Jim Gremaud, area engineer, St. Charles County region said commuters on westbound I-70 at the Blanchette Bridge can expect major delays from Memorial Day through Labor Day as crews close two lanes of westbound traffic. "Drivers can expect delays and should be thinking about using alternate routes and things of that sort and working some flexible hours if possible," Gremaud said.

Crews will be adding a third lane to Hwy. 40 from Hwy. 94 to Chesterfield Airport Road and paving and lighting the commuter lot at Highway 40 and 94.

The cities of St. Charles, St. Peters and O'Fallon all are going to be building bridges over I-70 in 1998.

The proposed Hawks Nest will span I-70 at Hwy. 94 to West Clay.

St. Peters is building a bridge west of Cave Springs, between Cave Springs and Hwy. 370 near Jungermann Road.

The city of O'Fallon plans to extend Wood Lawn across Hwy. 370 and Sondermann Road, one 1/4 mile east of Hwy. K and Sondermann.

Projects slated for completion in the St. Charles County region include the Hwy. K widening project, resurfacing northbound Hwy. 61 north of Hwy. P, repairing and resurfacing Hwy. 79, and resurfacing Hwy. V near Orchard Farm and Hwy. J into Fortage Des Sioux.

Further south MoDOT area engineer P.J. Kronlage said the expansion of Interstate 55 to Richardson Road in Arnold is expected to be completed later this year.

"That's the last project that will be let on I-55 for about three years," Kronlage said. "The next letting is 2001."

The reconstruction Highway M between I-55 and Hwy. 21 also is expected to be completed later this year.

The extension of improved Highway 21 from Schenk Road near Otto to Highway A in Hillsboro moved closer to reality with completion of the environmental impact study.

Kronlage said right-of-way acquisition would begin this year to pave the way for construction to proceed, if and when funds become available.

On the Illinois side of the river, Jim Easterly, district engineer for the Illinois Department of Transportation said motorists can expect to see work completed this year on the faded and frustrating Bridges of Madison County from I-270 on the north end of the Metro Area from Chain of Rocks to Hwy. 111 in Granite City.

Easterly said crews should be off of I-270 and have all lanes open on both sides of the interstate by year's end.

"The work is done," Easterly said. "It will just be taking those barriers down at the end of this year. The reversible will go away at year's end."

In the long term, Easterly said Illinois officials are hopeful a new federal funding bill can be approved to release the funding for projects which have been delayed in the past year.

"The lack of federal funding is causing some delays in projects," Easterly said. "We're hopeful a bill will be signed sometime in the future but we don't know exactly when that will occur."

When funding is released, Easterly said officials are hoping to win approval for a new \$500 million bridge across the Mississippi to relieve traffic on existing bridges in the Metro East and downtown areas.

"That's a long-term project that regrettably the motorists won't see this year, but hopefully in the near future," Easterly said.

The new bridge will span the river between Martin Luther King and McKinley bridge, connecting Interstates 55/70 on the Illinois side with I-70 near 14th Street and Tucker Boulevard on the Missouri side.

"That's years away yet, but it's an important project, not only for the east side but for the entire region," Easterly said. "We feel that it's important that we plan for the future with a bridge structure."

On a smaller scale, Easterly said crews will be patching and resurfacing I-55 and I-70 in the Troy and Collinsville area.

Crews also will begin patching and resurfacing Hwy. 157 west for about two miles starting in March, and patching and resurfacing I-55 from Hwy. 30 to Route 4, and from Hwy. 140 south to Hwy. 143.

Easterly said the extension of I-255 six miles north of I-270 to Hwy. 143 at Wood River could be completed as early as Oct. 1.

"We've been working on that a couple of years with the bridges earth work and so forth," Easterly said. "That will be completed later this year."

Illinois state crews will widen Hwy. 111 from two to four lanes on I-270 about two miles north to accommodate a proposed industrial complex starting this spring. The project is expected to be completed by early fall.

Crews will add a new \$4.3 million bridge deck on the Chain Rocks Canal Bridge on Old Route 66 this year. The project is expected to be completed by Dec. 1.

Easterly said some longer term projects will get started this year as well, including replacing the ramps on the Martin Luther King Bridge and completing seismic work on the Poplar Street Bridge approaches.

More than \$7 million has been set aside in Missouri and Illinois to pay for the two-state project on the bridge approaches.

"We always have quite a bit of work here on the Illinois side because of the number of interstates that come in, the volume of traffic and the age of some of our roads," Easterly said.

"They require regular work to keep them in service. They take a beating. With the amount of traffic, and the amount of trucks and cars we have traveling on them today, it's difficult to keep the roadways in good service."

Highway projects scheduled for 1998

Following is a look at projects with a price tag of \$1 million or more scheduled for the 1998 budget year under the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council's Transportation Improvement Program. Projects are funded through a combination of state, federal and local sources.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

North End - Replaces bridge(s) over the Bourbeuse River, \$1,802,000.
Hwy. 5 - Pave and grade 1.2 miles south of Hwy. F, \$1,160,000.
Hwy. 47 - Widen from two to five lanes one 1/2 south of Hwy. 100 south of the Missouri River, \$5,562,000.
I-44 - Install rumble strip, guardrail and cable guards, \$1,044,000.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Vogel - New roadway, shoulders, traffic signals, left-turn lanes and landscaping for extension from Lemay Ferry Road to the I-55 Overpass at Richardson Road, \$3,927,000.
Richardson - Land acquisition, interchange revision, added capacity, improved geometrics, signing and lighting, \$8,692,000.
Imperial - Main - Acquire land to add capacity at interchange, \$1,600,000.
Hwy. 141 - Acquire land to add capacity at interchange, \$1,340,000.

Hwy. 21 PROJECTS

Acquire right-of-way for expansion from Schenk Road to Hwy. A, \$1,510,000.

Hwy. M PROJECTS

Hwy. 21 - Construct bridge(s) and paving from New Hwy. 21 to 410 of a mile east of Old Hwy. 21, \$5,225,000.
Old Lemay - New four-lane freeway from Old Lemay Ferry Road to I-55, \$5,875,000.

MADISON COUNTY

Seminary - Reconstruct roadway, from Hwy. 111 to Bostwick Street, \$1,200,000.
Chain Rocks - Widen from two to five lanes from Hwy. 111, \$3,000,000.

I-55 - Resurface four-lane pavement and replace bridge deck from abandoned railroad bridge north of Interstate 270 to Hwy. 140, \$7,050,000.
Hwy. 111 - Widen from two to five lanes from Poag Road to Chain of Rocks Road, \$3,750,000.

Hwy. 143 - Repair bridge deck over Wood River Creek west of Hwy. 3, \$1,175,000.
Bike Trail - Bicycle trail along earthen levees from Granite City to Alton, \$3,972,000.

MONROE COUNTY

Hwy. 3 - Relocate south of Waterloo to Moore Road, \$4,640,000.

ST. CHARLES COUNTY

Hwy. N - Widen Mid-Rivers Mall Drive to the Gardens Creek Bridge, \$1,205,600.
Hwy. 4061 PROJECTS
Lake St. Louis - Construct new interchange, \$3,642,000.
Research Park - Construct new roads and bridges at the overpass and extension east of Hwy. 94, \$5,355,000.

Upper Bottom - Reconstruct at Friedens Rd to Page Avenue at Hemish and from Fox Court to Junga Station, \$12,623,338.
Wales - Improve roadway from Knaut Road to Hwy. N, \$2,601,600.

Zumbel - Widen from West Clay to Campus Drive, \$2,000,000.

I-70 PROJECTS

Hawks Nest - Overpass - Service Road to West Clay Construct bridges, \$8,100,000.
Cool Springs - Realignment interchange overpass and outer roads, \$15,063,000.

PAGE AVENUE PROJECTS

Hwy. 40 - Acquire land to Hwy. 94 at Hwy. N, \$3,500,000.
Hwy. 94 - Acquire land from Hwy. N to Heritage Landing, \$4,800,000.

McCluer - Acquire land to 410 of a mile west of Hwy. 94 at Hwy. N for relocation of four lanes, \$1,000,000.
Upper Bottom - Paving and grading, \$1,496,000.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

40th St. - acquire land, adjust utilities for bridge construction, \$3,108,000.

38th St. - Resurface 58 miles of four-lane pavement, \$1,000,000.

POPLAR STREET BRIDGE
Retrofit/resurface bridge deck to Broadway, \$6,500,000.
I-55/70 - Rehabilitate three bridges east of Hwy. 203, \$4,275,000.
I-55/70/64 - mitigate groundwater at two locations at the American Bottoms and 29th St., \$2,050,000.

ST. LOUIS CITY

I-44 - Reconstruct ramp at Vandeventer Ave, \$4,348,000.
Hwy. 40 - Acquire land and retrofit Poplar Street Bridge approach east of 21st St., \$9,882,000.
I-70 - Replace bridge(s) from Branch Ave. to west of Riverview, \$5,850,000.
22nd St. - Construct four-lane roadway from I-64 to Cole St., \$2,200,000.

Chouteau - Phases 1 and 2 of bridge rehabilitation from 39th St. to Vandeventer, \$8,093,250.
Columbia - Replace bridge east of Brannon Ave between Southwest Ave and Herford St., \$1,400,000.
Grattan - Phases 1 and 2 of land acquisition to reconstruct roadway from Lafayette Ave to Gratiot, \$2,876,500.
McNee - Widen from two to four lanes from Vandeventer to Kingshighway, \$1,100,000.

ST. LOUIS COUNTY

Ries - Reconstruct, realign and resurface from Manchester to Oak Street, \$6,005,000.
Wilder - Reconstruct and realign roadway and replace bridges from Clarkson Road to Hwy CC (Wild Horse Creek Road), \$1,593,303.

Ballas - Widen from four to five lanes from Magna Carta Dr. to Olive Blvd., \$1,384,000.
Bridge - Rehabilitate bridge off of Glen Owen Drive over a tributary of Mainline Creek, \$1,100,000.
Bridges - Replace bridges over Coldwater and Fountain Creeks, \$1,016,352.

I-270 PROJECTS

I-44 - Revise interchange from Craigwood to Rott Road, \$4,997,000.
Hwy. 30 - Install sound walls to Sappington Road, \$2,752,000.

Manchester - Replace bridge over I-270, \$10,466,000.

I-44 PROJECTS
Allenton - Acquire land and reconstruct roadway for west-bound ramp and Outer Road, \$2,191,000.
Hwy. 61-67 - Reconstruct ramps, rehabilitate bridge(s) and establish intersection medians, \$11,893,000.
Bridge - Rehabilitate bridge off of Hwy. N, \$1,005,000.
Manchester - Acquire land west of Mason Rd. to relocated Des Peres Road at Interstate, \$3,598,000.

Hwy. 141 PROJECTS
Hwy. 141 - Acquire land to Brittany Pkwy, install sound retaining walls, signals, lights and signs and paving, \$21,860,000.

Enchanted - Expand freeway to six-lanes to Brittany Pkwy, \$8,588,000.
Big Bend - Acquire land to Vance Rd., \$5,500,000.

Correction drainage, paving and grading from Heintz Rd. to Fine Rd., \$3,050,000.
Olive - Acquire land from Ladue Road to River valley Dr., \$1,486,000.

PAGE AVENUE PROJECTS
CC Park - Acquire land to Bennington Place, \$7,950,000.
Mo. River - Grading to Creve Coeur Mill Rd., \$13,500,000.
Seven Pines - Grading, bridge and retaining walls, \$2,110,000.

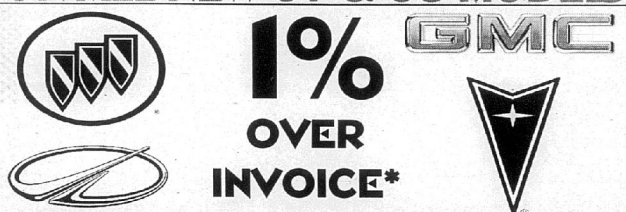
Design, construction, land plans and girders, \$15,246,500.

BIG BEND RD. PROJECTS
I-44 - Widen from four to five lanes to South Kirkwood, \$2,777,500.

INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS
Hwy. 40/61 - Widen, add auxiliary lane from Hwy. 94 to Chesterfield Airport Road, \$1,177,000.
Hwy. AC - Resurface from Old Halls Ferry to Parker Rd., \$1,387,000.

Lindbergh - Realign roadway from I-70 to McDonnell Blvd., \$15,500,000.
Lackland - Resurface two-lane pavement from Flora to Midland, \$1,100,591.

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By Nicole V. Staff writer

The corner lined with h America.

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Caseyville appearance deceiving to the eye

By Nicole Vaughn
Staff writer

The corner store, the big white church, the narrow streets lined with houses all give Caseyville the look of small-town America.

It seems to be a quiet little borough where few things happen and nothing ever changes.

In the past decade, the village has gained a staggering sales tax base in its southern end where new motels or restaurants are springing up almost annually. The village currently has two motels. Two more are under construction and work on a third new one will soon get under way.

New homes also are being built at various locations and there's at least the potential for 400 more, as well as a golf course—all in a single development.

"Things are going well in Caseyville right now," Mayor George Chance said. "There's even a lot more things that are still being talked about."

In November, the Caseyville Village Board agreed to create a tax increment financing district for a proposed \$16 million development.

In addition to a golf course and clubhouse, the plan calls for 400 to 450 homes to be built on 460 acres located across the street from Collinsville High School. The site is on South Morris, bounded by Caseyville and Hollywood Heights roads as well as Illinois 157 and Illinois 159. A strip mall also would be among commercial development along the highway portion of the property.

Chance said that the plan is still in the works, something village officials are delighted about.

"That would almost be a city," Chance said. "It's a lot different than most of the projects we've been involved with in the past."

The village has also recently been chosen as a site for a Casey's convenience store. It will be located near the intersection of Illinois 157 and Caseyville Road.

Even existing businesses are on the move. JR's Fine Meats and Groceries has opened a brand new store next to its old location, 23 S. Main. The new store is about 11,000-square-feet larger than its predecessor, giving Caseyville residents not only more selection but more space in which to do their shopping. The project is one of several to benefit from the village's TIF fund. JR's got both a low-interest loan and the expense of demolition on the site. The village also assisted the businesses displaced by the project, as well as many others who decided to expand or renovate their buildings.

"We've helped a lot of people and we're tickled to be able to do that," Chance said.

Winter no time for track to rest

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

There are no cars zooming down the straightaway or skidding into the turns, but that doesn't mean there is not a lot of action at Gateway International Raceway in Madison.

Coming off of their first season, track officials are adding seats and events, and planning on even bigger crowds this year.

"The biggest thing going on right now is the modification to the existing grandstand on the oval, and the addition of another 10,000 permanent seats to that grandstand," said Rod Wolter, president and general manager of the track.

This year, the capacity at the oval track will be about 60,000.

He said they were also doing engineering on seats for turns one and two.

"Construction will probably begin in the fall," he said.

Seating is important because track officials are hoping for a Winston Cup NASCAR race—possibly next year.

Officials have said the track must have close to 100,000 seats available to attract a Winston Cup race.

There will also be another 5,000 permanent seats for the drag strip, giving them a total of 9,000 permanent seats.

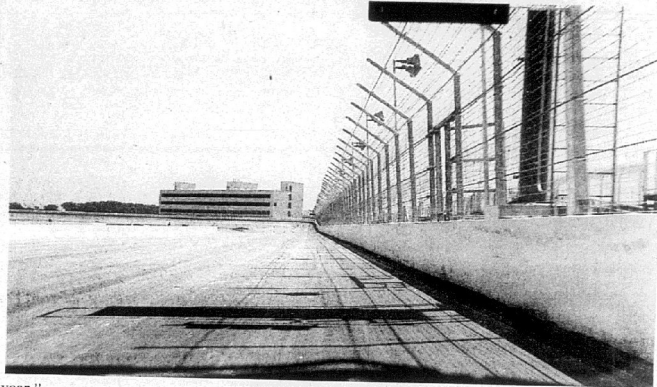
Seating isn't the only thing that is being improved.

"We'll add some additional concession stand area and rooms to the existing facilities," he said. "You've got to get away temporary toilets as much as you can, but obviously you can't put in as many as you need, because they'll only be used four or five times per year."

Over all, he said construction is going "very well."

The weather has really cooperated with us," he said. This year, three major races are scheduled for the oval track, and one major drag race.

The season starts with the Motorola 300 PPG CART World Series, May 21-23. Next is the NHRA Sears Craftsman Nationals, June 25-28, the NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series, Sept. 17-19, and the Gateway 250 NASCAR Busch Series, Grand National Division, Oct. 15-17.



Wolter said ticket sales for the four major events are going well.

"They've handled virtually all the ticket sales over the phone in California, and they've been very happy with the sales," he said. "They've been surprised with the amount of sales for the pickup races."

They didn't figure that it would really take off like it has, and it's really done well," he said.

Wolter added that the track was developing a season pass, which would include some extras such as track access during testing.

"We've got some testing that's coming in the first week in March, which we thought was pretty early," he said. "But with the weather like it's been they could have been in here any time."

Wolter said parking will be the big question.

This year, he said they are adding more entrances to the parking lots and hope to make other improvements.

"We're always looking and snooping around for additional parking because we know

some pieces (of land) will be lost to development," he said. "We have some other things in the works that we don't want to reveal yet," he added.

Wolter said they could develop parking away from the track, but that would create other problems.

"People like to be able to see where they are going," he said. "We have some off-site areas that could be utilized, but we're afraid that being that they are more than two or three miles away people become very leery of parking there."

"You really need a good shuttle system, and then what happens when somebody has to leave in the middle of an event and his car is three miles away?" he said.

Track officials have also been meeting with the Illinois Department of Transportation about improving access to nearby roads and interstates.

He said they have made "good progress" and more meetings are scheduled.

"We keep progressing," he said. "It's a construction project that's never done."

Parks

(Continued from Page 3C)
Alley to alley behind houses facing Oak Street and Adams Street so children will have no street to cross in the park.

Part of the planned park was formerly a pond where coal byproducts were dumped. Mehtens said the Illinois EPA has declared the area safe, but advised the city to put down a layer of lime to neutralize the

resulting acidity of the soil and then cover it with topsoil. Some drainage work also needs to be done, he said.

Some preliminary work is planned for the Elm Street Park this summer. Completion could take two to three years, Mehtens said. He said the nature park probably will be completed within two years of the receipt of the money.

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For example, last summer one man requested he be carried in the back of his pick-up truck opposed to the traditional Hurst.

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ADVERTORIAL

Developers excited about Eastport

Collinsville gained more than \$6.5 million in commercial development during 1997 — and more than half of it came to the Eastport area.

After some years of struggling, the area may finally be getting its due.

It is continuing the trend of the last few years by expanding its hospitality district. During 1997, Eastport got a new Boston Market, valued at approximately \$153,000, a new Applebee's, valued at more than \$300,000, and a new \$2-million Microtel. The \$4-million Family Fun Tymre recreation area opened

in June and ground was broken on the new \$4.9-million Splash City water park being built nearby by the Collinsville Area Recreation District.

But it also got an Envirotest laboratory and the Johnstone Supply Co., starting a new trend that began in 1996 with the location of Tech Lab laboratories on Horseshoe Lake Road. More businesses like these are beginning to discover Eastport.

A warehouse — with a projected \$500,000 value — is being built at the corner of Horseshoe Lake and McDon-

ough roads by ABC Supply. The new business is expected to spur development of the industrial park called for in the Eastport overlay plan.

"It just took one company to want to go there to get things started," said Director of Administrative Services and Economic Development Pam Hyllton. "All we needed was for somebody to get a plan and act on it. That's what it takes to attract future development."

The city is in the process of running water and sewer lines to the site. About 50 acres have been divided into 13 lots.

Verlo Mattress Factory still largest

The Verlo Mattress Factory Stores, Inc., the nation's largest franchised craftsman-direct bedding manufacturer, handcrafts top-quality bedding and sells it directly to the public.

Locally, Verlo stores can be found in Collinsville and Fairview Heights, as well as in Florissant, Manchester and St. Charles, Mo. The original store was opened in Wheeling, Ill., by Dale Williams and Gary Day in 1968. There, the concept of building and selling mattresses within the same factory store was developed. Now Verlo stores are located throughout the Midwest and Southeast.

Each Verlo mattress is built and customized to provide the utmost in comfort, support and durability. More than 15 models are available, and all are backed by a 100-percent non-pro-rated written guarantee. Verlo customers also receive free delivery and set-up, as well as their choice of a free mattress pad, pillows or free frame. Manufacturing costs



are significantly lower because there are no extra shipping costs or middle-man mark-ups. Along with membership in local chambers of commerce, sponsorship of local sports teams, donation of new sleep sets to homeless shelters and a collection of Toys for Tots, Verlo has also developed the Outcycle Program to stop old

bedding from ending up in the hands of mattress renovators or America's landfills. The Collinsville factory is planning an outcycle drive this spring. The Collinsville and Fairview Heights locations are owned by Jim and Sarah Flood. The Florissant, Manchester and St. Charles sites are owned by Mark Nystrom.

New elementary school receives passing grades

About 700 students began this school year in the Unit 10 School District's newest facility, John A. Renfro Elementary School.

The school, which represents a merger between Lincoln and Morris elementary schools, is under the guidance of Principal Jeanie Nicolussi and Assistant Principal Tom Tucker.

It is named after longtime Unit 10 Superintendent John Renfro, who died two years



Medicine Shoppe cares about customers

Contact with customers is the biggest asset of The Medicine Shoppe, a small, apothecary-style retail pharmacy located at 3675 Nameoki Road in Granite City.

In addition to pharmacist

William Connolly, R.Ph., owner Stephen Burdge, who opened The Medicine Shoppe in 1985, has an R.Ph. degree. Therefore, a pharmacist is always available to counsel patients on their prescription and health needs. The Medi-

cine Shoppe also offers free delivery service to residents of the Granite City area, including Mitchell, Madison and Pontoon Beach.

The pharmacy emphasizes low prescription prices.

SSM Therapy Center highlights rehabilitation

Fairview Heights' SSM Physical Therapy Center, 325 Lincoln Highway, Suite 8, now provides pediatric rehabilitation services in cooperation with St. Louis' Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital's Glennon Care For Kids program.

It joins three other SSM Rehab Physical Therapy Centers in bringing Glennon therapists to SSM sites in order to provide Glennon-quality treatment to children closer to their own homes.

Pediatric coverage includes physical, occupational and

speech therapy services for various disorders such as orthopedic and neurodevelopmental treatment.

Carol Murphy, director of Rehab Services at Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital, believes that having Glennon therapists at the sites enhances the competencies of the SSM staffs. "By working with SSM Rehab in providing pediatric services, the care for patients and their families will be improved by serving them in their own communities while still maintaining the quality of

care they've been accustomed to at Cardinal Glennon," she said.

One of the approaches used at SSM Rehab when treating both inpatients and outpatients is patient education. SSM believes that it's important that each patient must understand the illness or injury that has affected his or her body. Once a person understands and accepts what has happened to them, they will be more likely to cooperate and become active in their own recovery process.

Another new service that will be offered by Fairview Heights' SSM Physical Therapy Center is free back lifts. Beginning in early spring, an SSM Rehab Physical Therapist will conduct brief back screenings that will indicate potential back problems. Attention will be given to posture and body habits in the workplace. To have your name placed on the mailing list for SSM Rehab's Back Lifts notification, call (618) 632-0130.

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Communication Concepts adds locations, products

Communication Concepts, 3006 S. Illinois Highway Route 159 in Glen Carbon, was established in 1992 as a cellular and paging agent for Ameritech. Now, more than half a decade later, the business has added two more locations — one at 551 Beltline Road in Collinsville, in Schnucks Plaza, and the other at 66 Airport Plaza in Bethalto, next to Country Fair. It has also expanded its product line to include car audio and security products from companies such as Kenwood, Sony, Clifford and Crimestopper.

Its most popular product this winter has been the remote car starter. This device allows drivers to start their vehicles from up to one thousand feet away. Cars and trucks can then be safely warmed up or cooled

down, as the transmission and doors are still locked. This prevents accidental movement of a vehicle should a child become curious. Remote starters and keyless entries are installed on-site, as are the car audio and security systems.

Communication Concepts is a member of the Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce. It regularly donates prizes to community non-profit organizations, and contributes to local athletics organizations.

The company's goal for the future is to expand to offer custom home theatre installations on a large scale. Communications Concepts will shortly offer satellite dish systems and home theatre audio packages.

Biegert's means custom jewelry

Biegert's Jewelry is located at 113 W. Main in downtown Collinsville. The store has been in operation for 15 years, and Terry Biegert is the owner.

Biegert's is the only Collinsville store with a bench jeweler on the premises, and Terry Biegert is the only bench jeweler in town.

He personally sees to the custom designing and crafting of rings and jewelry, and to any necessary jewelry repairs, such as ring sizing, diamond resetting and retipping. Rings are gladly cleaned and inspected anytime at no charge.

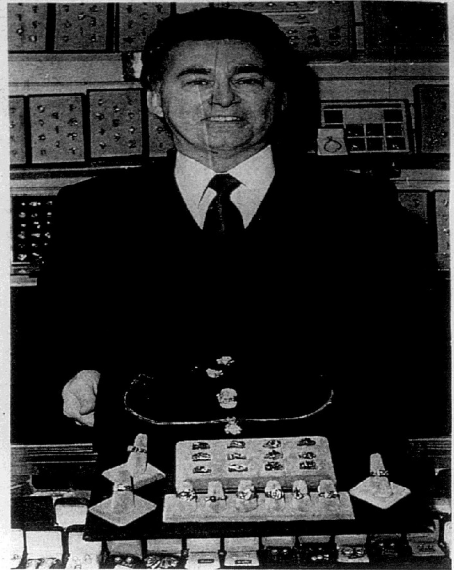
Biegert also handles watch and clock repair, including overhauling, cleaning and battery replacement.

Biegert's Jewelry also carries a wide range of jewelry and gift items, such as pearls, diamonds, precious and semi-precious stones, and 14- and 18-karat necklaces, bracelets and earrings.

Diamond wedding sets, Black Hills gold, 14-karat and sterling silver chains, men's jewelry, Iris Arch crystal, clocks and watches are available. An unusual item is the Biegert's Gold Rose, which is a genuine 12-inch stemmed rose preserved and hand-dipped in 24-karat gold. It sells for a little more than the cost of a dozen "regular" roses.

Biegert's is pleased to announce its special remount sale set for February 22 through March 7, with 30 percent savings.

This is the perfect time to customize. All loose diamonds are 30 percent off. Let Terry Biegert help you design a whole new look for your diamonds or colored stones.



Shop Biegert's Jewelry for the tremendous selection and personal service, and remember custom designing is Biegert's specialty. Biegert's was voted the #1 Jewelry Shop in the 1997 Collinsville Journal Readers Poll.

Triad High School students wait for new school to be built

By Alene Hill
Staff writer

If plans go according to schedule, Triad High School students could be in a new facility in August.

Triad Unit 2 voters last November overwhelmingly approved a \$21.5 million bond issue to build the new school.

"We're through the schematic design phase, the footprint, and now we're considering more specific details inside,"

said Superintendent William Hyten. "The design hasn't changed, we're basically at 189,400 square feet."

The proposal raised the district's total tax rate by 41 cents from the current \$3.59 to \$4 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

The enrollment in schools in Troy, Marine, and St. Jacob served by the district has grown to more than 3,400 students, a 40 percent increase since 1986.

The present Triad High School was built in 1959 to accommodate around 400 stu-

dents. The current enrollment of the school is about 1,100 students.

Four classrooms were added to the current building in 1993 to try to accommodate the burgeoning enrollment.

Under the plan, a districtwide middle school will be created at the existing Triad High School to relieve overcrowding in the district's elementary schools. The existing Triad Middle School would be used for additional elementary school space.

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Sparkling baguette diamonds are needed in this bold two-gold slide pendant. (Chain sold separately) \$895

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Parisienne wheat gold chain \$119

Sparkling baguette diamonds enhance the princess-cut center in this design. \$1,795

This elegant marquise bridal set is surrounded by rows of diamonds. \$1,995

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Classic bezel-set diamond dangle earrings are so comfortable to wear. \$899

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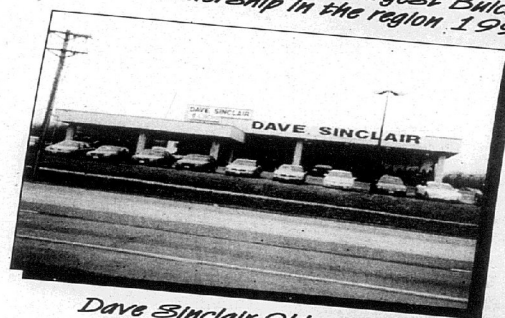
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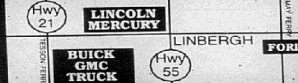
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Granite City dentist speaks at national conference

Granite City dentist Dr. William Chen recently brought his term as president of the Illinois Academy of General Dentistry to a close by delivering the opening session speech to the 45th annual national meeting of the Academy of General Dentistry House of Delegates, held in Chicago.

As state president, Dr. Chen led a group of 10 delegates and eight alternates from Illinois to the national conference. The House of Delegates decides policy that affects general dentistry and the Academy of General Dentistry's 35,000 members, who serve patients in the United States, U.S. territories and Canada.

Dr. Chen, who has had a private practice in Granite City since 1978, is a graduate of the Washington University Dental School in St. Louis. A member of the Academy of General Dentistry since 1977, he earned a fellowship from that group in 1984 by completing 500 hours of continuing education, and a mastership in 1987 through 600 hours of continuing education. Dr. Chen has served as a delegate to the House of Delegates meeting for the last 10 years. He had also held the office of treasurer of the Illinois Academy of General Dentistry in 1985-86 before serving as president of that organization.

Variety is key at Johnson's Floor Covering

Are you building or remodeling? Is your existing linoleum or vinyl tile worn out? Are you simply tired of looking at the same old carpet day after day?

If the answer to any of these questions is 'yes,' you need to visit Johnson's Floor Covering, located in Collinsville at 8110 Collinsville Road (phone: 345-5696).

You'll find floor coverings of all types for every room of your home or commercial building.

Johnson's Floor Covering, established in 1968, displays beautiful, natural hardwood flooring, which is available

in plank, strip or parquet.

Long-wearing, stain-resistant, easy-care linoleum and no-wax vinyl flooring are also on display in beautiful colors and patterns.

The sales people at Johnson's Floor Covering can show you a variety of carpeting, from luxurious deep-pile carpet for your home to wear-resistant carpet for commercial applications. A rainbow of colors is available for every decorating scheme.

Johnson's Floor Covering features quality floor coverings from well-known manufacturers, all at first-grade quality. The sales people can

inform you about the qualities, advantages and proper care of each type.

Because of its large selection, low prices and helpful personnel, Johnson's Floor Covering is the smart consumer's floor covering headquarters.

Major credit cards are accepted for your convenience.

Stop in soon to browse through the extensive showroom, and see why Johnson's was chosen as the #1 Carpeting/Flooring Store in the Collinsville Journal's 1997 Readers Poll.

active in government and used car lot sponsorships.



Respi-Link Homecare

Respi-Link Homecare Inc., 2301 State St. in Granite City, is the only home oxygen company in the Granite City and Madison area.

The medical equipment business, owned by Len Revelle, also offers mastectomy products, lift and power chairs, braces and

splints, and nurses uniforms and shoes.

Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the eight-year-old business has recently relocated to its State Street address in the building that was previously Sheridan's Drug Store. The original soda fountain is now

up and running for Respi-Link's patients and customers.

A Medicare and Public Aid provider, the business' future goals are to maintain the personalized services it has always given its patients.

Splash City Family Waterpark to open in May

It was three nearly three years in the making. Spawned from a series of Collinsville town meetings about improvements in parks and recreation.

Designed to be built and to be operated by the Collinsville Area Recreation District without utilizing tax dollars.

New, on Memorial Day weekend, Splash City Family

Waterpark is scheduled to open to the public. Located at #10 Gateway Drive in Collinsville, it will offer family-oriented activities in an interactive water environment.

The Collinsville Area Recreation District maintains all district parks and runs programs for all ages throughout the year. Splash City Family

Waterpark is its newest park and programming opportunity. The Waterpark will offer a variety of activities, such as a sand castle contest and community water safety programs.

Feasibility studies show an expected attendance of 68,000 in 1988. Splash City will continue to survey participants to get ideas.

JM Motors sells used cars at Nameoki location

JM Motors, 2310 Nameoki Road in Granite City, sells all makes and models of pre-owned vehicles.

Established in 1970 by Jerry Myatt, it is the oldest used car lot in Granite City, and has had the same general manager

since it opened. JM Motors started as a small used car dealership and has grown to one of the most respected car lots in the Metro-East area.

The business sponsors various local activities and community events. It is very

Security Finance provides loans

Need a credit starter loan? That's the specialty of Collinsville's Security Finance Corporation, 300 E. Main St., located across from the Collinsville Township Office.

Security Finance Corporation, which has 27 offices in Illinois, offers small consumer

loans ranging from \$159 to \$800.

The Collinsville location, managed by Mary Franklin-Matthews, offers loan approval in one hour. Telephone applications are accepted. For more information, call 346-9107.

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ADVERTORIAL



PONY Mailbox Plus offers numerous shipping services

Need to ship an entire household of furniture? Call John Ulakey. Ulakey has operated PONY Mailbox Plus since 1993. Located at 24 Nameoki Village in Granite City, by the Ponderosa in the shopping center, the store is an authorized shipping outlet for both Federal Express (FedEx) and United Parcel Service (UPS), offers US Postal Services and ships with most other carriers. The business also offers a full line of office services such as typing, copying, printing, stationery and private mailboxes. PONY Mailbox Plus is also adding often-requested additional services, such as key making and passport photos, to better serve the people of Granite City. Additionally, the office supplies are being expanded. The additions will

compliment PONY's goal to provide cost-effective and efficient office support services. A supporter of various community organizations for the past several years through its donations of services, PONY Mailbox Plus has continued its program to contribute a portion of the proceeds from each package it ships to various local charities. "Our store is a complete shipping and packing center, and small business support center," Ulakey said. "It carries a large selection of boxes and the proper packing material to make sure that your packages will be safe in transit. Our staff are trained to assist you in getting your package to its destination on time, in good shape and at the most reasonable cost." For more information, call 876-PONY.



The staff: Tami Griffing, front from left, Linda Becker, Jackie Clark, Sue Tucker, Nicole Brown; top from left, Kathy Hann, Jeff Hohann, Dave May, Dave Warner, Justin Krausz and Kathy Bathon.

Home Furniture offers great service

Home Furniture, 125 E. Main St. in Collinsville, offers furniture, appliances, TVs and "great service after the sale." The store opened in 1935 under the management of Mr. Greenstein. In March 1972, Mr. Freedman became the manager. Along with free financing

and free delivery, Home Furniture offers quality brands such as Lane, Flexsteel, Lexington, Stanley, Jasper, Hooker Riverside, Universal, Nichols and Stone, Bassett, Broyhill, Cochran, G.E. Hotpoint and Zenith TVs, just to name a few. A great supporter of local causes, Home Furniture is a

member of the Collinsville Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Collinsville Business Association. Home Furniture is proud to have served Collinsville and the surrounding area for 63 years and is looking forward to furnishing homes for many more generations to come.

Butterfield's adds custom designing

The Butterfield family of jewelers is celebrating its 62nd year in business by offering custom jewelry designing and manufacturing. Their store, Butterfield's Jewelers at 123

East Main St. in Collinsville, now has the equipment, facility and craftsmanship to make the items desired. Son John has the ability to cast, carve models, assemble, set stones and do all of the other aspects of jewelry manufacturing right in the store.

As always, the family gemologist Jean, the mother can identify customers' gems. She can tell whether or not they are real or man-made, or if they are fracture-filled, and can give a certificate showing their authenticity. Butterfield's has a beautiful bridal department. Granddaughter Jennifer does all of the buying and knows just the gown a customer is looking

for. Jack is the father. He manages the store, designs jewelry, does small watch repairs, takes care of the bookkeeping, and is the problem solver. His motto is, "The impossible might take just a little longer." Butterfield's Jewelers was established on June 13, 1936 by Jack's parents, Homer and Lois Butterfield, on a shoe-string budget. It has evolved throughout the years from a very small repair shop to the multi-department fine store it is now because of the original code of good ethics that Homer and Lois instilled in the business.

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ADVERTORIAL

Experience counts when it comes to heart and lungs

For 17 years St. Elizabeth Health Services has strengthened the ailing hearts and lungs of Madison County.

Outpatient services are provided through facilities at 1121 University Drive in Edwardsville, and at St. Elizabeth Medical Center at 2100 Madison Avenue in Granite City. Insurance usually covers 80-100 percent of services.

The services offered are comprehensive — including monitoring, individualized exercise, dietary counseling, disease education, social support, positive reinforcement and a long-term maintenance program.

"It takes a personalized combination of exercise, monitoring, diet and support to strengthen the heart and lungs for each patient," said Bev Mohl, coordinator of Cardiopulmonary Rehab. "When these vital organs function inefficiently, people can no longer do the things they were able to do. They can get frustrated, some over-exercising to get better while others withdrawing entirely from exercise out of fear. During the rehab period, we reassure everyone with lots of positive reinforcement and support."

Cardiopulmonary rehabilitation is an extension of a patient's own physician's care. A medical director oversees the rehab planning for each patient and progress is promptly fed back to his or her doctor. Even doctors in St. Louis refer their patients to this Illinois-based program.

While diet and exercise are important, all are done under the watchful eye of medically-trained staff with years of experience. Programs are supervised by a respiratory therapist and RNs who are

Cardiopulmonary Rehab



exercise specialists certified by the American College of Sports Medicine. They are also certified in advanced cardiac life support by the American Heart Association.

"Our sole purpose is to improve the fitness of heart and lungs, and return the

patient to a more normal life," said Motil Sayering "yes" to any of the following questions means you should consider this program: Have you suffered a heart attack? Are you recovering from an angioplasty, bypass, heart transplant or bronchitis, chronic obstructive

pulmonary disease, bronchiectasis or some other lung disease? Are you preparing for or recovering from a lung reduction, transplant or other lung surgery? To find out more about heart and lung disease and the road to recovery call 798-3669.

Fairview Heights library set to renovate lower level

The Fairview Heights Public Library is expanding in more ways than one.

Not only is the library's computer technology and book collection growing but so is its lower level. After three years of waiting, the library is scheduled to renovate its lower level this year.

Nearly a year ago, the library is now going to expand its basement, making it available for meetings and library programs, Library Director Debbie Owen said.

Hanks General Contracting is scheduled to begin work on the project this month. Depending upon the availability of certain materials, the project is scheduled for completion at the end of July, Fairview Heights Public Works Director Bob Hotz said.

"We're just glad to have it under construction," Owen said. With an estimated cost of \$277,000, a grant received last year from the Illinois

State Library will pay for \$129,751 of the costs.

The 10,000-square-foot basement will be converted into a small and a large meeting room, a small kitchen and additional storage area by the time the renovations are completed.

In addition, the concrete floor will be carpeted and the ceiling will be lowered. A divider will also enable the large meeting room area to be sectioned off.

Jim's Pawn & Jewelry carries variety of items

Jim's Pawn & Jewelry, owned by Jim Hudson, has two locations — one at 1901 State St. in Granite City, and at 119 E. Main St. in Collinsville.

In addition to carrying an ever-changing variety of interesting pawned merchandise — such as diamonds, Rolex watches, guns, tools, guitars and trombones, compact discs, and the players on which to use them — the stores are also vendors for the Spiedel Watch Co., and Zippo Lighters.

Other services offered include collateral loans, estate purchasing, jewelry repair, and — the biggest draw, according to Hudson — the installation of watch batteries for only \$1.99.

Jim's Pawn & Jewelry opened in 1991, two years after Hudson's Jewelry, Inc. — owned by Jim Hudson's

father, also named Jim Hudson (but with a different middle name) — went out of business. The older Jim Hudson now works for the younger four days a week at the Granite City location. An even much-younger, third-generation Jim Hudson is waiting in the wings to help run the stores someday. And, if his father, the older Jim Hudson's son, has his way, the business will have expanded to at least one more store by the year 2000.

Jim's Pawn & Jewelry, Inc. is a member of the Collinsville Chamber of Commerce. Business hours are from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays through Fridays at both locations, and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Granite City, and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Collinsville.

Monsanto helps farming blossom

Thanks to Monsanto and biotechnology, the farming field is blossoming.

For the last 15 years, Monsanto has been experimenting with biotech. Now those experiments are paying off. Recently, Monsanto introduced a new soybean seed that is Roundup resistant. That means as the seed grows into a plant, Roundup can be sprayed on the soybean crop. The weeds die, but the plant continues to grow.

Roundup weed killer can not be used without killing the soybeans, if the seeds used are not Roundup resistant. Francis Vahlkamp of St. Clair Service

Company said the gene in the plant is changed to keep the chemical away from the growing points.

Other seeds are being developed similarly. One example is Liberty Resistant Corn. A weed killer sprayed on the corn crop kills the weeds, but not the corn plant itself.

Weeds aren't the only thing being attacked with new farming products.

Vahlkamp said that within the past few years biotech has been used to produce corn seeds that as they grow are fatal to certain insects. One particular corn seed kills rootworms in the soil if they come in contact with the plant.

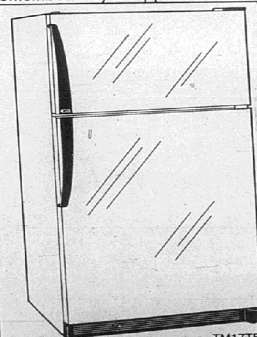
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Pictured from left to right - Front Row - Mildred Meyer, Jeff Lanter, Anna Rowden. Back Row - Ralph Druse, Ralph Sawyer, Kenneth Dove, Bill Meyer, Brian Meyer & Paul Meyer.

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ADVERTORIAL

East St. Louis has comeback chance

Most people don't think of tourism when they see East St. Louis' burned out houses, rutted streets, shuttered stores and abandoned factories.

But some think that tourism, especially in the riverfront area, will be one of the keys to an economic comeback. A new group, the East St. Louis Tourism Commission, is looking for anyone interested in promoting tourism in the area.

"One of our objectives is the promotion and development of tourism within the city of East St. Louis," commission member Floyd Jack said. Another area the group will focus on is famous historical or cultural figures associated with East St. Louis, such as Miles Davis and Jackie Joyner-Kersey. The group will also promote military monuments in Jones/Hall and Lincoln parks, Jack said.

"There are many other noteworthy individuals who have come from East St. Louis," Jack said.

Jack lists several attractions:

- ✓ The Casino Queen, which is embarking on a \$40 million expansion including a 25-room luxury hotel and a 175-space RV Park;
- ✓ The Eads Bridge, the first

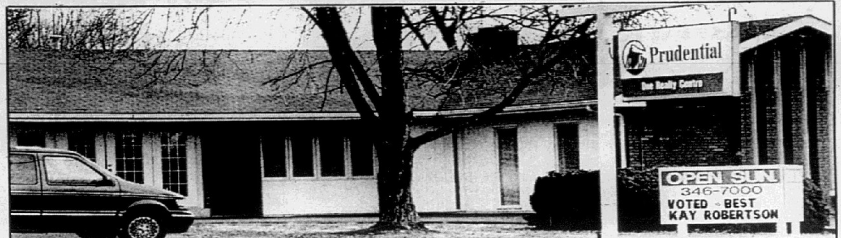
bridge across the Mississippi River;

- ✓ Frank S. Hollen State Park, which has two lakes, recreation areas and the Grand Marais Golf Course;
- ✓ The Gateway Geyser, the world's largest fountain;
- ✓ The Katherine Dunham Center for Arts and Humanities, which includes a museum, a dance workshop for youth and a cultural institute dedicated to preserving Dunham's contributions to dance;
- ✓ Parker Garden Bed and Breakfast, 2310 State St., one of the 25 black-owned bed and breakfasts of 30,000 in the United States.

The group eventually wants to establish a local tourism office that would work in conjunction with the Southwestern Illinois Tourism and Convention Bureau, of which Jack is a board member.

"For the first time in history, East St. Louis has a tourism bureau," said tourism bureau director Mark Westhoff said.

Westhoff said tourism in southern Illinois is the second largest industry and doubles the state's overall growth rate.



Prudential Realty 'enjoys' new offices

Prudential One Realty Centre capped off a banner 1997 by doubling the sales staff in its Collinsville/Maryville area office and expanding into a larger location. The new building, located at 2906 Maryville Road on Interstate 55/70, is just north of Interstate 55/70. It has been completely remodeled and fea-

tures conference rooms, a computer area and offices for 25 sales people. "We've just moved in, but everybody is very excited about this location," notes Susan Landing, broker-manager. In addition to the immediate visibility our new office provides, we are positioned to expand our ability to deliver quality real

estate service to a growing market."

"Our accessibility to all major highways puts Prudential One Realty Centre within minutes of our client base," she added.

For more information call Prudential at 346-7000 or 1-800-697-1647.

TIF will help Troy grow

Most of the new development in Troy is quite evident, but the biggest project is not yet visible.

The tax increment finance district will be located on the east side of Interstate 55/70.

Last year, the city completed a demographic survey of the city and annexed 306 acres into Troy for TIF development.

"We are still in the interview stage for a developer," Mayor Tom Caraker said. "We have had several national developers interested, and it's a plan we are not going to rush into. We'll wait for the best offer."

Caraker said that although

development details will not be finalized until the city hires a developer, several suggestions have been considered.

"There have been suggestions for a bowling alley, a cinema and a teen center," Caraker said. "But we'll wait until we have a developer."

Less than a year ago, the council had dropped its plans to establish the district, causing Caraker and the council to start from scratch.

But, in September, after almost three years and two false starts, the council approved the plan.

After years of serving satisfied customers as a part-time home-based custom gift basket and balloon bouquet business, GayAnn's Basket Creations has finally evolved into a full-time store. The Gift Connection, Inc., owned by GayAnn and Gary Range, is located at 3659 Nameki Road in Granite City, in the mini-mall in front of K Mart.

The Gift Connection, Inc., offers gift baskets (already prepared or made-to-order), balloons, candles, decorative oil lamps, bath oils, gourmet foods, candies, cookie bouquets, plush animals, porcelain dolls, babies' and children's items, picture frames, jewelry, wedding accessories, silk florals, and a wide variety of other fine gifts and collectibles. Gift wrapping and delivery are available, and gifts can be shipped anywhere.

Customers can also bring in their own items to combine with items purchased to create a truly personal and unique gift basket.

The store will soon be adding additional greeting cards and



gift wrap, as well as expanding their other product lines. An Internet web site is currently being developed to further promote the business. Its number one goal, however, is to develop a larger clientele of repeat customers arising from

its owners' dedication to a completely satisfying shopping experience.

The Gift Connection, Inc., is a member of the Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce. During its first holiday season, the store gave free ornaments to

customers who had contributed canned goods for distribution to the local needy.

Store hours are from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays.

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Ziebart Tidy Car offers rustproofing and more

Ziebart Tidy Car, 6659 Center Grove Road in Edwardsville, was established in 1995. It offers car and truck rustproofing and undercoating, cleaning, window tinting, remote starters and all accessories.

It also offers pickup and delivery for vehicle owners in the Edwardsville area, as a convenience for people who have busy schedules.

The Ziebart chain has been the leader in the field of vehicle protection for 35 years, and has 600 locations around the country.

The Edwardsville store is owned by Richard and Mike Tallierico.



X2 Collision uses 21st century tools

X2 Collision, as the state-of-the-art auto collision repair facility is now known, has moved to 2727 Maryville Road outside Collinsville.

This brand new, 15,000-square-foot facility has two drive-in estimate bays helmed by a full-time estimator and staff to help the customers from start to finish with their

auto body repair needs and all insurance claims. The computerized estimate systems are another advantage in speeding up vehicle repair time.

X2 Collision also offers such features as computerized four-wheel alignment, computerized frame and unibody equipment, and a top-of-the-line down-draft bake booth for a better-than-

factory glass-like finish. The business offers a lifetime warranty, as well.

The business offers free complimentary cleaning inside and out for all vehicles with all jobs. Scott Jennings and his staff of experts cordially invite you to stop by. The business may also be reached by phone at 344-XX22 (344-9922).

Rain Tunnel has good neighbor policy

Rain Tunnel Express, 1511 Niedringhaus Avenue in Granite City, is an express tunnel car wash. It is the second of three car washes owned by Scott Knight and a small group of investors, who include Charles Knight, a 40-year veteran of the car wash business.

Established in May 1996, Rain Tunnel Express is managed by Jason Gilmore. The Express has made generous donations to several organizations, including Granite City's St. Elizabeth Medical Center, police department

and Coordinated Youth and Human Services, MADD and SADD programs, and numerous youth groups.

In the future, as now, Rain Tunnel Express will strive not only to be the best car wash in town, but the best neighbor as well. It plans on being a community pillar for years to come.

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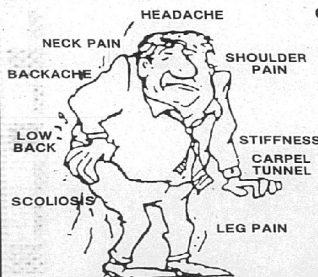
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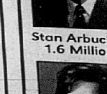
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Shipley uses power for community's good

Dr. Lawrence A. Shipley is a chiropractor with a difference. In his war on chronic pain due to neck, back and carpal tunnel injuries, he sometimes resorts to a weapon normally found in old "Jonny Quest" cartoons on TV — the laser beam.

"I first started 21 years ago with the youthful enthusiasm to help everyone suffering from spinal, arm or leg pain or headaches," Dr. Shipley said in a recent press release to Suburban Journals.

"Today, I feel, with 21 years' experience, a continuing expansion and refinement of technological expertise along with a very dedicated staff," he said, "our treatment is continuing to be more effective and efficient."

Dr. Shipley, whose office is located at 2502 Pontoon Road in Granite City, provides same-day examinations and treatments. He also gives lectures to his fellow chiropractors, civic groups, and even his patients on a monthly basis. He enjoys educating chiropractors about the various aspects of examining and treating patients and operating a pro-

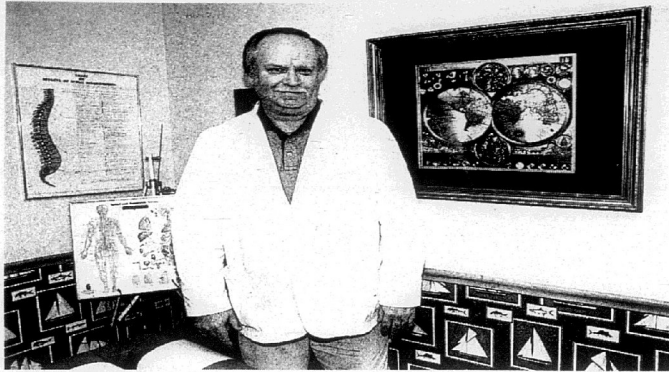
'The most rewarding has been our monthly back classes ... because it's a great chance to answer questions about health problems.'

Lawrence A. Shipley

fessional business and staff. "The most rewarding," Shipley said, "has been our monthly back classes at my office, because it's a great chance to answer questions about health problems and provide answers to various health disorders."

Besides giving health lectures, Dr. Shipley has been active in many local and national charities, church and school organizations and business groups. He also sponsors local sports teams.

His future goals are to pro-



vide efficient and effective treatment for those suffering from back pain, headaches or

carpal tunnel difficulties. For a free report to help you eliminate that kind of pain and suf-

fering, or for a free consultation, you can call his office at 931-2001.

Excellent service is Sun's goal

Sun Loan Company, 100 E. Main in Collinsville, offers short-term personal loans ranging from \$100 to \$600. Most loans are approved within an hour, as the company concentrates on fast, friendly service.

The Sun Loan chain was started by Thomas L. Brundage in 1989. By the end of 1990, there were nine companies in eight cities, mainly in south Texas. By January 1991, Sun Loan began the next stage of its evolution into a major chain, professionally managed and geared toward growth in assets, offices and profitability. The Collinsville office was opened in September 1995. Currently, Sun Loan Company has more than 120 offices nationwide.

The Collinsville office's goal for the future is to continue to provide excellent customer service for Collinsville and the surrounding area.

Laura

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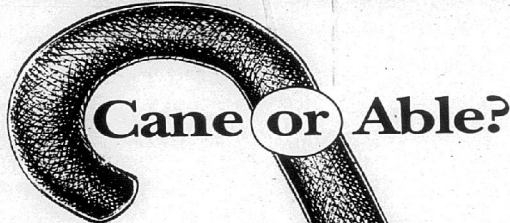
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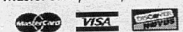
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Casino Queen offers fun fit for a king

When the majestic Casino Queen first docked on the East St. Louis riverfront in June 1993, it marked the beginning of the rebirth of this struggling community and the creation of one of the most popular attractions in the Midwest.

A four-story high replica of a 19th Century side wheeler located at 200 South Front St., the vessel has been a tremendous success story for the gaming industry.

Mayor Gordon Bush has called the Casino Queen "the catalyst for the future" of East St. Louis. When many experts said it couldn't be done, the Casino Queen defied the odds by setting innumerable attendance and gaming records in the State of Illinois while providing jobs for more than 1,200 people — a majority from the East St. Louis area. The Casino Queen Community Development Foundation, a charitable organization set up by the riverboat's owners, also provides incentive loans for new businesses, grants and donations to worthy causes in the region. Craig Travers is the vessel's general manager.

The Casino Queen takes 11 two-hour cruises daily, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Visitors have the opportunity to use any of 1,011 slot and video poker machines, ranging from 25-cent to \$25 denominations. Live games include blackjack, craps, Caribbean stud, mini-baccarat, Let it Ride and roulette. Table limits range from \$2 to \$2,000. Cruise times are at 9 a.m., 11 a.m., 1



p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m., 9 p.m., 11 p.m., 1 a.m., 3 a.m. and 5 a.m. The cost is only \$2 per cruise, with boarding one half hour before cruise time.

On shore, the new 42,000-square-foot Guest Pavilion offers a gift shop, a casino cashier cage, a Slot Club redemption center, a garden-style restaurant, a sports bar and grill and private banquet/meeting space. There is more than 20 acres of secured, well-lit parking, including 2,000 free spaces and additional valet parking.

The Casino Queen holds the record for the highest attendance in one month on any Illinois gaming vessel. This record was set in July 1994 when 413,076 people visited the boat. Gaming vessel trivia

buffs may be interested to know that the Casino Queen is the largest cruising vessel on inland waterways. It's 450 feet long, 72 feet wide, four decks high, with two 54-foot tall "smoke stacks," as well as a 50-foot high neon paddle wheel.

Comfortably seats 3,000 passengers.

Has 45 crew members and more than 1,200 employees catering to the needs of each customer.

Cruises from 6 to 12 mph, and is operated by Coast Guard-licensed and certified crews.

Uses 5,000 tons of steel in the hull, sports 1,000 gallons of paint and uses 22 million feet of electric cable.

Terry's Appliance Center celebrates 10 years

Terry's Appliance Center has just celebrated the beginning of its tenth year in business.

A partnership of brothers Terry Giger and Dale Schmalz, the store has two locations — 125 E. Market in Troy, and 124 Vandavia in Collinsville.

Schmalz, who lives in Highland, takes care of financial matters. Although he had spent 30 years as a counselor and assistant principal at Highland High School before his retirement in 1994, his background through college was in retail business. He holds a degree in business administration.

Giger, a Troy resident, has more than 17 years of sales experience.

Jon's Appliance Repair,

owned and operated by a brother of both Terry and Dale, does all the warranty and repair work for both locations.

Terry's Appliance Center carries Whirlpool, Magic Chef, Amana, Zenith, Roper, Jenn-Air, Kitchen Aid, Tappan, Frigidaire and Gibson appliances, as well as Bosch dishwashers, Holland grills, Zenith televisions and A.O. Smith hot water heaters. It also has a supply of used appliances for sale.

It offers prompt delivery — free within 15 miles — and will haul away a customer's old appliance for free. Ninety days same-as-cash financing is available. The store takes MasterCard, Visa and Discover cards.

Terry's Appliance Center welcomes whole house bids and offers builder pricing for three or more appliances.

A member of both the Troy and Collinsville Chambers of Commerce, the Downtown Collinsville Business Association and the Key Mid-America Buying Group, Terry's Appliance Center also boasts a district-level Lions Club officer — Schmalz, who belongs to the Highland chapter.

Store hours are from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays at both locations. On Saturdays, store hours for Collinsville are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; in Troy, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Terry's Appliance Center may also be reached on the InterNet at www.homeappliances.com/terrys.

Mueller Furniture continues 71 years of great service

Mueller Furniture, a family-owned business in Belleville for more than 70 years, continues to meet the needs of its customers.

Founded by John Mueller in 1927 and passed along to his sons, Les and Roland, the Mueller tradition has carried over into a third generation with the leadership of Lynwood Mueller.

Mueller Furniture, located at

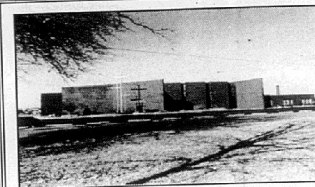
1044 E. Main St., has become Belleville's largest furniture store by offering fine name brands like Cochrane, Stanley, Lane, Lexington and Flexsteel at the area's lowest prices.

At Mueller, salesmen provide expertise for choosing quality furniture for every room in the home at reasonable prices.

While most of the original building was destroyed by fire

in 1978, the original location has now been expanded by 30,000 square feet with a recent addition. More display space and a new computerized catalog system allows Mueller to offer the best selection of fine furniture.

Visit the store when you have furniture needs or call for more information at 233-0667.



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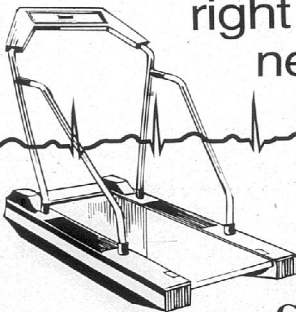
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Sr. Pastor

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It's one of the reasons why more than 10,000 adults with cancer in the Metro East have chosen Oncology Care Center for their medical care.

Since opening in December 1986, the Oncology Care Center, 4000 North Highway 159 in Swansea, has provided state-of-the-art care in both radiation and medical oncology. Over the years, it has added more patient services, increased its staff, doubled its size and opened offices in Maryville and Granite City.

Today, the Center boasts a staff of more than 50, including six oncologists. Its program of providing all the outpatient services patients need — and more — is so unique that it has been replicated by other cancer centers across the nation.

The Center even participates in clinical trials, giving patients access to new, developing treatments. Clinical trials are usually conducted at major medical centers and schools across the nation. The Oncology Care Center gives patients access to the latest cancer treatment possible. To date, the Center has participated

in more than three hundred.

Besides obtaining advanced cancer care, patients going to Oncology Care Center can receive social services, nutritional support and financial guidance. They can even derive emotional support through self-help meetings of local cancer organizations. The Center, for example, sponsors programs of "I Can Cope" for newly diagnosed patients, and meetings of "Man to Man," a prostate cancer support group.

Friends and families of cancer patients can also find help at the Oncology Care Center through its Cancer Information Center, also known as the CIC. Developed as a collaborative effort between the local American Cancer Society and the Oncology Care Center, the CIC is a source of free cancer information. It has brochures, books, videotapes — even wigs — for cancer patients. Anyone from the community can come in and "check out" an item. Later this year, the CIC will have an interactive computer program allowing interested persons to find out their risk for developing specific types of cancer, and to possibly motivate them to lead healthier lifestyles.

For more information about the Oncology Care Center or its services, call (618) 236-1000.



Whiplash and Back Injury Clinic

Whiplash and Back Injury Clinic, located at 3361 Fehling Road, Suite 7, in Granite City, offers chiropractic, wellness and accident care and injury rehabilitation for all ages.

Dr. Gerald H. Bemis, Sr. established the Granite City practice in 1996, and was recently joined by his son, Dr. Gerald H. Bemis Jr. Dr. Bemis, Sr. has practiced for 25 years in Alton, where his father began his chiropractic practice in 1946. His grandfather practiced chiropractic from 1915 until 1967. All four generations graduated from

Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa, the oldest and first chiropractic college in the world, established in 1896. Dr. Bemis, Sr. is a former instructor at Palmer College and a past president and present director of the Illinois Prairie State Chiropractic Association.

Dr. Bemis Sr. is a member of the Granite City Optimist Club. He has worked extensively with area select and high school sports teams and has worked with a college soccer program. His goals for the future

are to provide the finest, most comprehensive chiropractic, rehabilitation and accident care to the community, and the most accurate diagnostic assessment of the injured. Whiplash and Back Injury Clinic works to educate the community and businesses on the benefits of chiropractic care and how numerous studies have shown it to be effective, safe, economical, and to have lasting results. U.S. government studies have shown it to be a safer, more effective alternative to drugs and surgery.

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87-PEACE

Fairview Heights continues rapid growth

By Kimberly Haas
Staff writer

Both the business district and residential community saw a substantial growth over the last few years in Fairview Heights.

Last year, the city conducted a special census, discovering the population had grown by 975 people since 1990. At that time, a census showed the city had 14,768 residents.

The special census revealed the population had jumped to

15,743.

"It didn't really come as any surprise. We knew the tally had escalated since 1990," Fairview Heights Mayor Gail Mitchell said.

Contributing to the growth is the annexation of properties and the development of several subdivisions, including Brittain Estates and Stonewolf. Those areas not involved in the 1990 census were targeted by the most recent one.

With the special census revealing the city's population

is more than 15,000 residents, the number of aldermanic wards will have to be increased by one.

Currently, the city has four wards with two aldermen each. With the increase in City Council members, the city will have to realign its wards' boundaries.

The changes will have to occur prior to the next election, said Tim Tolliver, director of Land Use and Development for Fairview Heights.

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PROGRESS

Computers lead banks into the 21st century

By Cheryl A. Moody
Staff writer

As computer technology continues to reach new heights, traditional services offered by banks are changing to take advantage of what today's computers can do.

Those changes can ultimately affect the way each and every one of us do our financial transactions. Check writing is gradually being replaced with debit cards, direct deposits and direct payments.

Debit cards look like charge cards and are used in place of writing a check. Area grocery stores, department stores and even gas stations are accepting debit cards.

"I'm an avid user of the debit card," said Al Miller, vice president of West Pointe Bank & Trust Company in Belleville.

"It reduces the time it takes for the clerk to accept and validate your check."

Some utility companies, like Illinois Power, now offer direct payment, which means your account is automatically debited each month for the amount you owe.

And forget about going to the bank to cash a check.

Some employees can now take advantage of direct deposit, which means your check is automatically credited to your bank account.

All these new ways of transacting financial matters can mean less time waiting in lines and doing paperwork.

"The industry is making every effort to reduce paper volume," Miller said.

Miller said although a multitude of changes are being made now in the banking industry, he looks for check writing to be in existence for a long time.

"A lot of people have not caught on to electronic banking," Miller said.

He added that one of the newest trends will be PC banking, which will allow people to do their banking from a home PC.

Miller said in order to utilize PC banking, you need:

- ✓ A PC.
- ✓ A modem to connect to the telephone line.

- ✓ A subscription to the bank's service (normally between \$5 and \$9 monthly).

- ✓ A subscription to an Internet service to make the connection between home and a bank.

- ✓ A receiver set up for PC banking.

Once set up, the user can access his or her accounts at any time to check the account balance, to electronically pay bills or see what checks have already been paid.

Miller said that monthly standard pay-

'A lot of people have not caught on to electronic banking. It reduces the time it takes for the clerk to accept and validate your check.'

Al Miller
West Pointe vice president

ments, like house and car payments, can be set up on the PC to be automatically paid.

But payments that change on a recurring basis will have to be completed monthly.

With PC banking, it will be possible to make transfers between different banks, money markets, and between checking and savings accounts.

And for those who think you will still have to visit a bank to withdraw money — think again.

Gregg Goodman, executive vice president of West Pointe, said that in the next four to five years, smart cards will be available allowing us to use cash in our bank accounts, without actually withdrawing it.

"Smart cards are already used extensively in Europe," Goodman said.

Goodman added that the smart cards have already been tested in the United States, including at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

Use of smart cards will require a machine like the ones used at grocery stores for check cashing cards.

A computer owner will swipe the smart card through the machine and download a specified amount of money from a personal bank account to the card.

The card can then be used for purchases.

"The younger generation will take a liking to PC banking," Miller said.

"Businesses will be interested in PC banking because it provides them an avenue to manage their daily cash flow."

The security and safety of PC banking may be just as safe as carrying around your checkbook or wallet full of cash.

"There is a system in place to protect the consumer and protect the secrecy of their records," Miller said.

Goodman said the security system is made up of fire walls and encryption coding which helps keep hackers from breaking through.

West Pointe hopes to offer PC banking services no later than May.

For further information, call 234-5700.

Join The Party!

Come To The 1998 Annual Membership Meeting!

The good times start at Granite City's credit union's Annual Membership meeting. Members will have an opportunity to celebrate with old friends and meet some new ones as you share the highlights of 1997 and find out what's new for 1998.

Mark your calendar for this special occasion and join us:

When: Saturday, March 7

12:30 p.m. Business Meeting/
Officer Elections

1:00 p.m. Buffet Dinner

5:00 p.m. Refreshments &

6:00 p.m. Entertainment

10:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus Hall

Where:

Old Alton Road
Granite City

Telephone Center:
797-7993

Main Office

3970 Maryville Road
Granite City, IL 62040

Branch Office/ Drive-Up
Lee Avenue & 20th Street
Granite City, IL 62040

After the brief business meeting and election of officers, members can relax and enjoy a buffet dinner and entertainment that takes us on into the evening. You may even win a prize!

Stop by either credit union office to pick up your

REFRESHMENTS

DOOR PRIZES

ENTERTAINMENT

BUFFET DINNER

OFFICER ELECTIONS

40 YEARS MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

4500 Memorial Drive
Belleville, Illinois

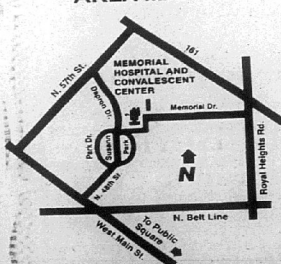
233-7750

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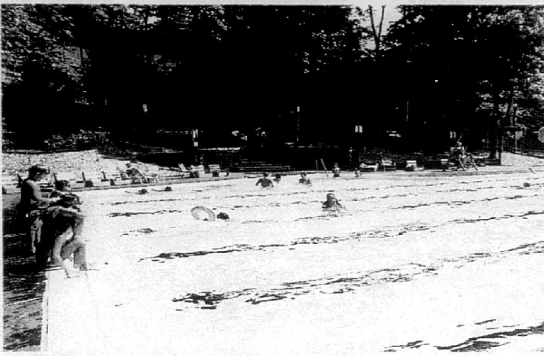
Club designed for relaxation

Gaslight Pool & Tennis Club, a private swim club with limited membership, is now accepting memberships for 1996. Those who receive active lifetime family, yearly family, teen, individual and couple memberships will have full club privileges. Tennis-only memberships are also available. This year's opening dates are Friday, May 22, for the lodge, and Saturday, May 23, for the pool.

You, as a Gaslight member, would join people like yourself who seek to spend time in a relaxed atmosphere in a beautiful rustic, wooded setting.

Located in the Anderson Acres area, the club features a competition-sized swimming pool with a flume slide, a one-meter maxiflex dive board and a lap lane; a baby pool; two lighted tennis courts; a lighted sand volleyball court; and a rustic lodge with a full-service bar, color TV, VCR, electronic darts and games for children. The lodge is rent-free to members daily during normal open hours, and rentable by members at other times for card parties, birthdays, meetings, family pot lucks, weddings, receptions, reunions and baby showers. The club also offers private tennis and swimming lessons, and has three coaches — two for swimming and one in diving.

The Gaslight Pool & Tennis Club is also the home of the trophy-winning Gaslight Gator and Dive Team, the only swim team in Collinsville. The



Gaslight Gators, who are approaching their 34th year of competition in the Southwestern Illinois Swim Association, have already produced one Olympic gold medalist — Tom Jager.

A not-for-profit corporation, the Gaslight Pool & Tennis Club works hand in hand with the Collinsville YMCA by

providing facilities for its summer water activities, and sponsors events for other not-for-profit organizations. Its corporate office is located at Gnavi Law Office, 1004 Vandavia St. in Collinsville.

For membership information, call 345-1940 and ask for Betty.

Big changes in store for Holiday Shores

By Charles Feldman
Correspondent

Two important changes are coming to the lives of the residents of Holiday Shores, the private lakeside community near Fort Russell. A new association manager is expected to be hired this spring, and the clubhouse rebuilding project is expected to be completed sometime this summer.

The community's Hollishor Association has already established a search committee to screen applications for the vacant position of association manager. The new employee will succeed Ed Carpenter, who retired on Feb. 16.

The committee will make an employment recommendation to the seven-member Board of Directors. A new association manager will hopefully be in place by March or April, resident Donna Nelson said. "They've received quite a few applications so far," Nelson said.

Fast progress, due to favorable weather conditions, is also being made on the clubhouse rebuilding project. Several concrete foundation walls are in place, as well as wall supports and steel beams on the floor, according to Nelson. The new

building will have two stories, with a "walkout" on the lower level. The popular gathering place, which had been destroyed by fire in March 1996, is expected to be ready for use sometime this summer. A grand opening celebration is being planned for the occasion.

In the meantime, several of the Hollishor Association's annual events have been held at other locations throughout the area. Its annual New Year's Eve party was held at the Hamel Community Center. Its "Crazy Bowl" activity took place at Wood River Bowl.

The upcoming St. Patrick's Dance, which is open to the public, will be held on at 8 p.m. March 21 at the K.C. Hall in Bethalto. For those who are interested, tickets, which cost \$10 per person, \$20 per couple and cover free beer and set-ups, are available by calling Jeanie or Charlie at 656-2535. Music will be provided by the band Gabie.

Other upcoming events for Holiday Shores include a community cleanup day on Earth Day, April 18, and the popular large total community Yard & Garage Sale, slated for Saturday, June 6.

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Each year, the Journals of Illinois will publish this

Parade Of Progress

chronological honor roll of outstanding area merchants, churches and organizations.

The Parade of Progress is a salute to their deep roots and tradition of service that have made their continued existence possible.

AN HONOR ROLL OF ILLINOIS BUSINESSES

135 Years Serving The Community
St. John Cemetery
2550 Maryville Rd.
Granite City, IL
876-5811

91 Years Serving The Community
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31 Years Serving The Community
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Wed - Thur 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Closed Friday

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314-429-8855
FAX 618-467-8219
PAGER 618-338-2089

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877-2005

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Janet Partney, Sales Associate with Landmark Realty, Inc. has been a successful real estate agent for the past 10 years. The Illinois Association of Realtors has recently awarded her the Bronze Sales and Cold President's Club award for 1997. She is currently serving as Vice President of the Granite City Board of Realtors. For all of your real estate needs, call a professional, ask for Janet Partney 782-5140.

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PROGRESS

St. Elizabeth's Hospital ready to serve

St. Elizabeth's is an acute care, 498-bed, nonprofit hospital. It is an affiliate of the Hospital Sisters Health System and a member of the Unity Health Network.

It employs nearly 1,700 people and has a medical staff of more than 300 representing 40 medical specialties and subspecialties.

St. Elizabeth's is the home of Southern Illinois Heart Institute which offers patients-centered cardiopulmonary care, state-of-the-art cardiology services, and rehabilitation, all close to home. Telephone 1-800-676-SIHH (7444).

The Hospital's new outpatient facility at 1512 North Green Mount Road, O'Fallon, opened in November. It offers laboratory tests, nonemergency X-rays, mammograms, cardiac tests (EKGs and Holter Monitoring), physical therapy, and an open-air design MRI. Most tests and therapy require appointments.

However, no appointment is required at the facility's Urgent Care Center where fast treatment of minor injury or illness is available every day from noon to 8 p.m. The Center is staffed by registered nurses and physicians educated in ER medicine. Those who have questions about the treatment of minor illness or injury are advised to call 624-3750. Those with serious problems like chest pain or minor trauma, should seek emergency care at the hospital's Emergency Room.

St. Elizabeth's new Voice Clinic recently introduced a service to help those who experience chronic hoarseness, voice strain, or other symptoms making voice use difficult. The clinic has the latest diagnostic tool — a videostroboscopy — used to examine the voice box. It is the only facility in southern Illinois offering this diagnostic test. For details, call 234-2120, extension 1235, or (888) 376-7325.

With the expansion of the hospital's Sleep Disorders Center, diagnostic tests are now available at two satellite locations — St. Anthony's Hospital, Alton, and St. Joseph's Hospital, Highland. For information call 234-2120, ext. 1534.

In January, Gerald M. Harmon, executive vice president of St. Elizabeth's Hospital, announced its affiliation with Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital which will strengthen the newborn center's neonatology program and supplement its staff. The agreement will provide neonatologists from St. Louis University School of Medicine to make daily rounds and provide consultations at the Belleville Hospital.

Newborn Center at St. Elizabeth's is the only nursery in the metro-east area that offers advanced nursery care for premature babies whose lungs are not fully developed and those born up to 10 weeks early.

A new quick and inexpensive test to screen for osteoporosis, called a DPD, is now available anytime at the hospital's laboratory, and at the O'Fallon facility, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and noon to 8 p.m., Sunday. Laboratory services at both facilities are provided by Trilab, a company which operates five full-service medical labs in the metro-east. The urine test measures the rate of bone loss. An elevated DPD indicates an abnormal rate of bone loss and the individual is likely to osteoporosis.

Other special services available at St. Elizabeth's include: a CARE-certified Comprehensive Medical Rehabilitation Unit; 24-hour emergency services; Fas-Trac treatment for minor emergencies; Chest Pain Evaluation and Cardiac Observation Centers; Behavioral healthcare and addiction services; a Back-to-Work Center; Occupational Medicine; and home health services.

St. Elizabeth's Unity Advantage Program offers VIP treatment for those age 55 and older. Membership benefits include discounts, free parking, assistance with insurance claims and more. For information call 234-2120, ext. 1559.

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Other special services available at St. Elizabeth's include: a CARE-certified Comprehensive Medical Rehabilitation Unit; 24-hour emergency services; Fas-Trac treatment for minor emergencies; Chest Pain Evaluation and Cardiac Observation Centers; Behavioral healthcare and addiction services; a Back-to-Work Center; Occupational Medicine; and home health services.

St. Elizabeth's Unity Advantage Program offers VIP treatment for those age 55 and older. Membership benefits include discounts, free parking, assistance with insurance claims and more. For information call 234-2120, ext. 1559.

St. Elizabeth's is an acute care, 498-bed, nonprofit hospital. It is an affiliate of the Hospital Sisters Health System and a member of the Unity Health Network.

It employs nearly 1,700 people and has a medical staff of more than 300 representing 40 medical specialties and subspecialties.

St. Elizabeth's is the home of Southern Illinois Heart Institute which offers patients-centered cardiopulmonary care, state-of-the-art cardiology services, and rehabilitation, all close to home. Telephone 1-800-676-SIHH (7444).

The Hospital's new outpatient facility at 1512 North Green Mount Road, O'Fallon, opened in November. It offers laboratory tests, nonemergency X-rays, mammograms, cardiac tests (EKGs and Holter Monitoring), physical therapy, and an open-air design MRI. Most tests and therapy require appointments.

However, no appointment is required at the facility's Urgent Care Center where fast treatment of minor injury or illness is available every day from noon to 8 p.m. The Center is staffed by registered nurses and physicians educated in ER medicine. Those who have questions about the treatment of minor illness or injury are advised to call 624-3750. Those with serious problems like chest pain or minor trauma, should seek emergency care at the hospital's Emergency Room.

St. Elizabeth's new Voice Clinic recently introduced a service to help those who experience chronic hoarseness, voice strain, or other symptoms making voice use difficult. The clinic has the latest diagnostic tool — a videostroboscopy — used to examine the voice box. It is the only facility in southern Illinois offering this diagnostic test. For details, call 234-2120, extension 1235, or (888) 376-7325.

With the expansion of the hospital's Sleep Disorders Center, diagnostic tests are now available at two satellite locations — St. Anthony's Hospital, Alton, and St. Joseph's Hospital, Highland. For information call 234-2120, ext. 1534.

In January, Gerald M. Harmon, executive vice president of St. Elizabeth's Hospital, announced its affiliation with Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital which will strengthen the newborn center's neonatology program and supplement its staff. The agreement will provide neonatologists from St. Louis University School of Medicine to make daily rounds and provide consultations at the Belleville Hospital.

Newborn Center at St. Elizabeth's is the only nursery in the metro-east area that offers advanced nursery care for premature babies whose lungs are not fully developed and those born up to 10 weeks early.

A new quick and inexpensive test to screen for osteoporosis, called a DPD, is now available anytime at the hospital's laboratory, and at the O'Fallon facility, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and noon to 8 p.m., Sunday. Laboratory services at both facilities are provided by Trilab, a company which operates five full-service medical labs in the metro-east. The urine test measures the rate of bone loss. An elevated DPD indicates an abnormal rate of bone loss and the individual is likely to osteoporosis.

Construction speeds along in Fairview Heights

By Kimberly Haas
Staff writer

Lincoln Place, Fairview Center and U.S. Ice Sports are just some of the new facilities to be completed this year in the Fairview Heights area.

The 260,000-square-foot Lincoln Place is scheduled for completion by spring 1998, with Lowe's Home Improvement anchoring the development.

With an \$11 million facelift, the former Central Hardware store will soon become Fairview Center. The renovation and expansion of the building began in October 1997 and the center is scheduled to open in April 1998.

U.S. Ice Sports is planning to have its new \$4 million two-rink facility open by mid-April on South Ruby Lane. The developer broke ground on the facility in June 1997.

Lincoln Place will be located on the site of the former St. Ann subdivision, one block south of the Illinois 159 and Lincoln Highway intersection. Lowe's Home Improvement will occupy more than 150,000 square feet of the center, including a 115,000-square-foot sales floor and a 30,000-square-foot lawn and garden center.

The estimated cost of the Lincoln Place development is \$30 million. In addition to Lowe's, four other national retailers will be added to the development. Lincoln Place is being developed by Roman Properties in St. Louis.

Fairview Center is also being renovated by another St. Louis-based company, Pace Properties. The 71,500-square-foot renovation and expansion project will include a Bed, Bath and Beyond store and a Borders Books, Music, and Cafe. Other tenants will also be joining the center.

Pace Properties also owns the Marketplace Shopping Center, behind the Central Hardware property.

U.S. Ice Sports is building its first facility in Illinois.

More commuters using MetroLink

By Jim Rygelski
Staff writer

If usage at the "bookends" of MetroLink is any indication, commuters have taken to the light-rail system.

The highest average ridership at any MetroLink station is the 4,815 who board at the 5th and Missouri platform in East St. Louis, the easternmost stop of the 18-mile route.

And at the Lambert Airport station at the main terminal, the westernmost stop, an average of 2,300 to 2,400 people boarded a MetroLink car per day. Both figures come from the latest survey done by the Bi-State Development Corp., which operates MetroLink.

"We're happy with it," said Bi-State spokeswoman Linda Hancock. "It's better than what was expected. Our next step is to open the East Terminal station. That will definitely happen in 1998, over the next six to eight months. That ought to make it convenient."

The 2,400 figure at the Lambert stop is double what was expected by the year 2000, according to a study done long before MetroLink opened in 1993.

Hancock said there is no breakdown of riders at the airport stop. But she estimated that about half are travelers, such as those attending downtown conventions.

The third-highest average daily ridership — 3,985 — is at the downtown Convention Center stop.

"Signage (at MetroLink stations) is better than when we first opened," Hancock said.

"One of things we do when we have large conventions in, like PrimAmerica, is that our staff is there to give information (to MetroLink users). We do make an effort to accommodate large crowds. People like the option (of taking MetroLink) rather than cabs and buses."

Airport Director Leonard L. Griggs Jr. said about 2,300 to 2,400 airport employees use MetroLink on daily.

Griggs said MetroLink provides airline travelers and employees a convenient form of transportation.

A second MetroLink station is planned for the new East Terminal, which will make Lambert the only airport in the nation with two light-rail stations.

The latest daily ridership figures MetroLink supplied, from last November, showed 38,176 riders. That's up from the 24,000 average daily ridership during the light-rail system's first year.

Late last summer MetroLink saw its 50 millionth rider. Two-and-a-half years before that person was expected.

Officials hope the new federal budget will be adopted as proposed since it contains enough money — \$64 million — to extend light-rail from East St. Louis to Belleville Area College.

"If you're having personal problems with your voice, check with your doctor or an ear, nose and throat specialist to see if they want to try anything. Then ask if you're a good candidate for St. Elizabeth's Voice Clinic."

Carol Burt
speech pathologist

on TV," Burt said. She described the stroboscopy, which is a little longer than a pencil and laid across the tongue, as a scope with a flashing light and camera at the very tip.

Burt said the voicebox works at a rapid rate and the scope slows down the image so doctors can study it. They study the appearance of the voicebox and watch how it functions.

Doctors look for growths and excess fluid secretions that could possibly be causing the problems.

Following the exam, treatment is recommended. Burt said forms of treatment could include medicine, surgical intervention or speech therapy.

"If you're having personal problems with your voice, check with your doctor or an ear, nose and throat specialist to see if they want to try anything," Burt said. "Then ask if you're a good candidate for St. Elizabeth's Voice Clinic."

The examination takes about 15 minutes. For additional information, call 234-2120, extension 1235.

PROGRESS '98

There is
PROGRESS
IN THE
FUTURE



Rain Tunnel Express, 1511 Niedringhaus Avenue in Granite City, is an express tunnel car wash. It is the second of three car washes owned by Scott Knight and a small group of investors, who include Charles Knight, a 40-year veteran of the car wash business. Established in May 1996, Rain Tunnel Express is managed by Jason Gilmore. The car wash has made generous donations to several organizations, including Granite City's St. Elizabeth Medical Center, police department and Coordinated Youth and Human Services; MADD and SADD programs; and numerous youth groups.



Jim's Pawn & Jewelry, owned by Jim Hudson, has two locations - one at 1901 State St. in Granite City, and at 119 E. Main St. in Collinsville. In addition to carrying an ever-changing variety of interesting pawned merchandise - such as diamonds, Rolex watches, guns, tools, guitars and trombones, compact discs, and the players on which to use them - the stores are also vendors for the Spiedel Watch Co., and Zippo Lighters.

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